

Peggy Robles-Alvarado



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Robleswrites.com

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Peggy Robles-Alvarado is a tenured New York City educator and award winning poet who inspires triumph and embodies strength. With graduate degrees in elementary and bilingual education and an MFA degree in Performance and Performance Studies from Pratt Institute this former single teen mother, initiated priestess in the Lukumi and Palo spiritual systems, and a proud grandmother, uses her incredible rhythmic energy to celebrate womanhood and honor cultural rituals. She is a Pushcart Prize nominee, a CantoMundo, Academy for Teachers and Home School Fellow as well as a BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) performance poet award winner.



In 2012 she became the recipient of the *Mujeres Destacadas Award*, a recognition given annually by *El Diario-La Prensa* to the most outstanding women in the Latino community and The Woman Warrior Award presented by *Casa Atabex Aché*. Her first book, *Conversations With My Skin*, was awarded second place in the category of Best Poetry Book in English in the 2012 International Latino Book Awards. In 2013, her second book *Homenaje A Las Guerreras / Homage To The Warrior Women* was awarded second place for Best Bilingual Poetry Book and Best Cover Design. In 2013 she also was awarded The

Tato Laviera Poetic Teamster Award given by the Teamsters Union Local 237.

In 2016 Peggy was named one of the 25 Most Influential Women of the Bronx, a BCA Arts Fund, and Spaceworks Bronx Community Artist Grant recipient. In 2017 she was awarded the position of Graduate Student Trustee and received the Graduate Student Engagement Fund Grant at Pratt Institute. In 2018 she earned the Excellence in Academic Achievement Award and graduated Pratt Institute with a 4.0 G.P.A. Most recently, her anthology titled The Abuela Stories Project was awarded first place for Best Latina Themed Book and second place for Best Poetry Book with Multiple Authors.

Peggy has been featured on HBO Habla Women, Lincoln Center Out of Doors for La Casita, Pregones Theater Block Party, The 2014 Voto Latino Power Summit at John Jay College, Poets and Writers Fifth Annual Connecting Cultures Reading, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx Community College, Hunter College, New York University, Hostos Community College, The 2011 Brooklyn Book Festival, The Nuyorican Poets Café, The Milford Fine Arts Center, Fairfield University, Brecht Forum, Clemente Soto Véllez Cultural Center, Harvard University, Michigan State University as well as other culturally notable venues throughout and beyond the tri-state area.

She has been published in 92Y's #wordswelivein, NACLA, Manteca! An Anthology of Afro-Latin@ Poets, The Center for Puerto Rican Studies, The Bronx Memoir Project, The Other Side of Violet, and Latina Voices: Struggles and Protest in 21 Century USA. Luna Luna Magazine, Uplifft.com, Dealmas.org and Sofrito For Your Soul. She has also participated in several panel discussions focused on contemporary Latina writers through the Sangre Viva Arts Alliance, Fordham University's Office of Multicultural Affairs, Comadres y Compadres Writer's Conference and The New York City Latina Writers Group.

Peggy is continuously generating and supporting original thought-provoking women centered literary events that provide a platform for emerging artists through Robleswrites Productions. She co-wrote and co-produced *Soledad Speaks: A Theatrical Spoken Word Journey* that successfully debuted to five sold out standing room only audiences in 2013 at The Iati Theater and was selected to be part of the 2014 BADD!ASS Women Festival at The Bronx Academy Of Arts and Dance. She also created and produced *Women In Creative Rebellion: An Annual Spoken Word Poetry and Networking Event* that began in 2013 in the Bronx to celebrate the creativity of women. Peggy also co-produced several installments of Canvas Of Words: A Queens Art and Poetry Festival. Through Robleswrites Productions she has created workshops for women and produced the following anthologies: [*The Abuela Stories Project \(2016\)*](#) and *Mujeres, The Magic, The Movement and The Muse (2017)*. Peggy has also directed sold out performative readings of her latest anthology and the poetic play [*Live Big Girl*](#). For more information please visit Robleswrites.com.



Education

- Pratt Institute, MFA in Performance and Performance Studies, May 2018
- Lehman College Advanced Certification, Bilingual Education, June 2006.
- Lehman College Masters of Science Degree, Elementary Education, Sept. 2003
- Hunter College Bachelor of Arts, English Literature, June 1999
- New York State Permanent Certification Common Branch Pre K-grade 6, February 2004
- New York State Permanent Extension of Certification Bilingual Education, February 2007

Educational Honors and Scholarships

- Pratt Institute Excellence in Academic Achievement Award, 4.0 GPA May 2018
- Pratt Graduate Student Engagement Fund Grant, November 2017
- Pratt Institute Graduate Student Trustee, July 2017
- Pratt Institute, Performance and Performance Studies Scholarship, September 2016-2017
- Lehman College INTELL Program, September 2003-2006
- New York City Teaching Fellows Program, June 2001
- Hunter College Dean's List Award, 1995- 1999
- Golden Key National Honor Society, 1998
- Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship in English, Fall 1998
- Harriet Rutter Eagleson Award, 1999
- The Latino Honor Society, 1996



Accolades

- International Latino Book Awards, First Place Best Latina Themed Book and Second Place, Best Poetry Book Multi-Author, The Abuela Stories Project, 2018
- Pratt Institute Excellence in Academic Achievement Award, MFA 4.0 GPA, May 2018
- Pratt Graduate Student Engagement Fund Grant, November 2017
- Pratt Institute Graduate Student Trustee, July 2017
- Spaceworks Bronx Community Artist Grant, for Robleswrites Presents: Mujeres, The Magic, The Movement and The Muse July, 2016
- 25 Most Influential Women in the Bronx Award Presented by The Bronx Times, June 2016
- Bronx Council on the Arts, The Arts Fund Grant Award for Robleswrites presents: The Abuela Stories Project, Feb. 2016
- Areito Award for Poet of the Year at the 7th Annual Taino Awards, April 2015
- BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) Award winner, 2014
- Tato Laviera Poetic Teamster Award, Teamsters Union Local 237, 2013
- International Latino Book Awards, Second Place, Best Bilingual Poetry Book and Best Cover Design, Homenaje a las guerreras / Homage to the Warrior Women, 2013
- International Latino Book Awards, Second Place, Best Poetry Book in English, Conversations With My Skin, 2012
- Mujeres Destacadas Award, Most Outstanding Women in the Latino Community
- El Diario-La Prensa, 2012
- Womyn Warrior Award, Casa Atabex Aché Center, 2012



Fellowships

- Academy For Teachers, 2015 & 2018
- The Home School Poetry Fellowship, 2015
- CantoMundo Poetry Fellowship, 2014 & 2016

Literary Events Developed by Robleswrites Productions

- Robleswrites Productions Presents- Women in Creative Rebellion: The Writing and Healing Series @Studio 4, Writing Our Way Back- Poetry and Memoir In Honor of Our Ancestors Featuring JP Howard, June 2019
- Robleswrites Productions Presents- Women in Creative Rebellion: The Writing and Healing Series @Studio 4, Blessing La Boca Grande Featuring Yesenia Montilla, March 2019
- Dique Dominicana: A Reading by Dominican Women Writers, Association of Writers and Writing Programs, A Featured Reading, Forthcoming March 2018
- Beyond The Blueprint and Disrupting and Dismantling Dis-content: performances and panel discussions to be presented at THINKING ITS PRESENCE 2017: The Ephemeral Archive, Tucson, Arizona, October 2017
- Mujeres, The Magic, The Movement and The Muse: An Anthology of Women Writers, Robleswrites Productions, 2017
- The Abuela Stories Project: highlighting the essence of Abuelas through Photography, Poetry and Prose with Daisy Arroyo, 2016
- Bronx Book Fair Clap! Snap!: A Youth Poetry Reading and Writing Workshop funded by Robleswrites Productions, 2016
- Bronx Book Fair- A Weaving of Voices: An intergenerational reading funded by Robleswrites Productions and Poets and Writers, 2016
- Urban Crossings / Travesías urbanas: A Woman Centered Poetry Reading, Photography Exhibition and Open Mic, Nov. 2015
- Poets Recite From The Boogie Down To The Heights, High Bridge Summer Stage, outdoor poetry reading, July 2015
- Women in Creative Rebellion: Annual Spoken Word Poetry Showcase and Networking Event, started April 2013 & 2014
- Soledad Speaks, A Theatrical Spoken Word Journey, co- produced with Odd Girl In Entertainment, October 2013
- Canvas Of Words: Art and Poetry Festival, co- produced with Wendy Angulo Productions, October 2013 & 2014
- Open Mic Night, The East Harlem Café, July 2013
- Side Street Kids Poetry and Arts Festival, April 2010

Feature Performances

2019

- ❖ Soul Sister Review
- ❖ Lehman Stages Studio Theater
- ❖ Poets Settlement
- ❖ Columbia University
- ❖ Pregones Theater
- ❖ Lincoln Center
- ❖ ArtCafe+Bar

2018

- ❖ Smithsonian Institute- Museum of the American Indian
- ❖ Pen America World Voices Festival Pen America World Voices Festival
- ❖ Harvard University - Observatorio Cervantes
- ❖ Poets For Puerto Rico at The Bronx Museum of the Arts
- ❖ Michigan State University
- ❖ Association of Writers and Writing Programs Tampa, FL
- ❖ Williamsburgh Library
- ❖ Pratt Institute
- ❖ Columbia University
- ❖ NYU Latinx Caribbean Poetry Festival

2017

- ❖ Hispanic Coalition, Waterbury C.T.
- ❖ Poe Park Visitor Center
- ❖ New York Public Library
- ❖ Powerhouse Arena

2016

- ❖ Association of Writers and Writing Programs -Los Angeles, C.A.
- ❖ Spider House Café and Ballroom, Austin, TX
- ❖ Self Help Graphic Arts- Los Angeles, C.A.
- ❖ Bronx Arts Factory
- ❖ Yonkers Public Library
- ❖ Queens Lit Crawl
- ❖ La Maison d' Art
- ❖ Bronx Book Fair
- ❖ ELKAT Productions
- ❖ Open Moments NYC
- ❖ Kean University
- ❖ City College Word Up Bookstore
- ❖ Bronx Zoo

2015

- ❖ Amherst College Voices
- ❖ Bowery Poetry Club
- ❖ Bronx Museum Of The Arts
- ❖ Bronx Library Center
- ❖ Pace University
- ❖ National Black Theater
- ❖ The Shrine World Music Center
- ❖ East Orange Public Library
- ❖ Julia De Burgos Cultural Center
- ❖ Teamsters Local 237 Latino Heritage Celebration

2014

- ❖ Mexican American Cultural Center in Austin, Texas
- ❖ Columbia University- In Memory of Jack Agueros
- ❖ BAAD! ASS Women's Festival at Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance
- ❖ Poets and Writer's Fifth Annual Connecting Cultures Reading
- ❖ Voto Latino Power Summit at John Jay College
- ❖ Bronx Art Space
- ❖ El Fogon Center For The Arts
- ❖ Loisaida Center
- ❖ Medicine Show Theater
- ❖ Richmond Hill Library

2013

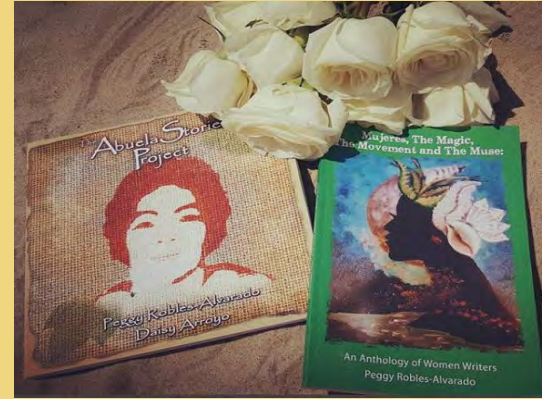
- ❖ Soledad Speaks: A Spoken Word Theatrical Production
- ❖ Canvas of Words: Art and Poetry Showcase
- ❖ Bronx Literary Festival
- ❖ Bronx Museum of the Arts
- ❖ St. John's University
- ❖ Fordham University
- ❖ Hunter College
- ❖ Hostos Community College
- ❖ NYC Lit Crawl Radical Latinas
- ❖ Teamsters Union Local 237 Tato Laviera Poetry Slam
- ❖ Tato Laviera Memorial
- ❖ Bronx Heritage Music Center
- ❖ P. R. Poets From The Diaspora, Manhattan Neighborhood Network
- ❖ Plantando Banderas Theatrical Showcase
- ❖ Nuyorican Poets Cafe
- ❖ East Harlem Café
- ❖ Babble In The Bronx

2011

- ❖ Poets and Writers Cross Cultural Reading
- ❖ El Fogon: Art of Creation
- ❖ Clemente Soto Velez Cultural and Educational Center
- ❖ DeAlmas.org Women's Retreat
- ❖ Inwood House
- ❖ Hostos Puerto Rican Club at Hunter College
- ❖ Brecht Forum
- ❖ Bowery Poetry Club: Warrior of Words
- ❖ Common Space Poetry Night

2012

- ❖ Lincoln Center Out Of Doors
- ❖ Pregones Theater
- ❖ Millersville University
- ❖ Fairfield University
- ❖ Lehman College
- ❖ Hunter College School of Social Work
- ❖ Taller Boricua
- ❖ Capicu Poetry and Cultural Showcase
- ❖ New York City Latina Writers Group at Camaradas
- ❖ Encuentro at Camaradas
- ❖ Librotraficante Protest Reading at La Casa Azul Bookstore
- ❖ Circa 95 Pop Up Shop



Publications

- Praise Poem for Bronx Girls Who Make Shopping At Rainbow More Than Enough (After Ntosake Shange, JP Howard & All My Cousins), Soul Sister Revue Anthology, Forthcoming September, 2019
- At Every Family Party Where The Grown-Ups Drank Too Much published in What Saves Us: Poems of Empathy and Outrage in the Age of Trump Edited by Martin Espada, Northwestern University Press, Forthcoming, October, 2019
- My Spanglish and The Poet's Response to #37 of John Baldessari's 109 Post-Studio Assignments Question: What kind of art can be done with real animals? published in the anthology Latinas: Voices of Protest and Struggles in 21st Century USA: by Red Sugar Cane Press, 2017
- Mujeres, The Magic, The Movement and The Muse: An Anthology of Women Writers, Robleswrites Productions, 2017
- Swelter published in an Anthology by great weather for MEDIA, 2017
- Boca Grande, Negrito Lindo, Bomba, When They Call My Name and If Only They Knew to be published in ¡Manteca! an Anthology of Afro- Latin@ Poets by Arte Publico Press, 2017
- The Abuela Stories Project, Robleswrites Productions, 2016
- Misconceptions and For Jose Who Became Joe, Dropped The "S" in His Name To Get A Job published in Bronx Chronicles Anthology, ELKAT Productions, 2015
- Undocumented published in Bronx Memoir Project, The Bronx Writers Center, Dec. 2014
- Homenaje a las guerreras / Homage To The Warrior Women, 2012
- Conversations With My Skin, 2011

Online Publications

- When Weathermen Insist Storms Are Feminine and To The Women Who Feel It In Their Bones published by The Common, forthcoming, October 2018
- Afterword published by 92Y.org #wordswelivein, July 2016 - [Afterword published by 92Y.org](#)
- Bendición: In Praise of All Who Seek Consulta From La Rubia, Teeth and Within An Hour- published by Nuyorican Women Writers Vol. 2 [Centro Voices Letras Literary Journal](#), April 2015.
- Teeth- Published by [Hyperallergic.com](#), Jan 2015.
- Teeth- published by [NACLA.org](#), Poetry Series from CantoMundo's event "Ferguson/Ayotzinapa: CantoMundo Poets Read and Respond." Dec. 2014.
- El Ombligo / The Belly Button- memoir published by [Uplift.com](#), Nov. 2013.
- Despite It All I Remain Puerto Rican – poetry and Querida Abuela - memoir - published by [Letras Literary Journal](#), The Center For Puerto Rican Studies, March 2010
- Tu cuerpo es mi religion-poetry published by [Sofritoforyoursoul.com](#), Jan. 2010
- Tu cuerpo es mi religion- poetry- published by She Speaks Dealmas.org, July 2009

Poetry Performances Links

- [To All the Boys in College](#)
- [Poetry Idol Judge](#)
- [Warriors Of Words](#)
- [Out Doors Spoken Word](#)
- [Women in Creative Rebellion](#)
- [Plantando Banderas – Planting Flags](#)
- [We Be The Beat of This City!](#)



Conferences

- Dominican Writers Conference, Programming Committee Member, May 2019
- Black Spirit Solstice Summit, Workshop Facilitator, December 2018
- Combative, Compassionate, or Complicit: A Conversation On The #MeToo Movement with Contemporary Latinx Writers, Moderator, Mosaic Literary Conference, November 2018
- Other Languages, Other Knowledges: Student Symposium of Modern Languages, BMCC, Keynote Speaker, November, 2018
- Taino: A Symposium in Conversation with the Movement at The Smithsonian Institute at The Museum of the American Indian, panelist, 2018
- Día De La Mujer Conference at Michigan State University, Keynote Speaker, April 2018
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs, A Featured Reading - Dique Dominicana: A Reading by Dominican Women Writers, Tampa, FL, Forthcoming March 2018
- Beyond The Blueprint and Disrupting and Dismantling Dis-content: performances and panel discussions presented at THINKING ITS PRESENCE 2017: The Ephemeral Archive, Tuscon, Arizona, October 2017
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Featured Reading- Mujeres At The Mic: A Reading by Nuyorican Women Writers, Organizer and Moderator, Los Angeles, C.A. 2016
- The Home School Poetry Conference, Miami 2016
- Women In The Nuyorican Literary Movement 1970's to Present, presenter and panelist, 2015
- Bronx Museum of The Arts Celebrates Down These Mean Streets by Piri Thomas, Panelist, 2014
- Girlswritenow.org, Digital Media and Spoken Word Workshop, Panelist, 2013
- Comadres y Compadres Writer's Conference, Poetry Panel Moderator, 2013
- Sangre Viva Presents Historias: A Conversation on Latino Literature, Fordham University, Panelist, 2012
- New York City Latina Writers Group: Sankofa Sisterhood, Panelist, 2012
- IJO / AYA Fellowship Author's Panel, Panelist, 2012

Facilitated Workshops

- When The Muse Is Muscle & Memory, Bronx Memoir Project, Poe Park Visitors Center, March 2019
- Storytelling with *Ways of Going Home* by Alejandro Zambra for The Bronx Council On the Arts, at BAAD, Feb. 2018
- The Abuela Stories Project Visits Poe Park: a free workshop, photography exhibition and open mic, February 2017
- Bronx Book Fair Women Centered Writing Workshop Presents: The Abuela Stories Project Workshop, by Robleswrites Productions, 2017
- Mujeres, The Magic, The Movement and The Muse- a series of women centered writing workshops, October 2016
- Breaking Down Latinx Gender Identity, Hispanic Coalition, Waterbury, C.T. 2016
- Bronx Book Fair Clap! Snap!: A Youth Poetry Reading and Writing Workshop by Robleswrites Productions, 2016
- Bronx Book Fair Women Centered Writing Workshops Presents: The Untamed Woman, by Robleswrites Productions 2014 & 2015
- Bronx Writers Center, Women Respond To Poe Workshop, 2015
- DeAlmas Women's Institute, Latina Youth Wellness Retreat Poetry Workshop, 2013, 2014& 2015
- Migrant Education Leadership Camp, Millersville University, Annual Teen Poetry Workshop, 2013 & 2012

Radio and Television Appearances

- Café Con Leche at WLCH/Radio Centro 91.3 FM Lancaster, P.A.
- Cafecito Break Online Radio, 2016
- Nuestra Palabra NPAirwaves, 2015
- HBO Habla Women: Gifted, 2013
- Manhattan Neighborhood Network, Puerto Rican Poets from The Diaspora, 2013
- Blogtalkradio.com Radio Capicu Before Opening Night-Soledad Speaks, 2013
- Bronxnet Open 2.0, 2013 and 2011
- Bronxnet Open, 2011
- Bronxnet Dialogo Abierto, 2011
- Bronxnet Bronx Journal, 2011

Media Coverage Links

- [To Be Woman: An Interview with Peggy Robles-Alvarado](#)
- [PA'LANTE: MOVING THE SPIRITS OF PUERTO RICO](#)
- [PALABRAS – LATIN POST \(by: Nicole Akoukou Thompson\)](#)
- [LATINTRENDS \(by Rachel Slaiman\)](#)
- [NEW YORK TIMES \(By A. C. LEE\)](#)
- [Womenwhokickass](#)
- [WELCOME 2 THE BRONX](#)

Additional Activities

- The National Association of Hispanic Publications Jose Marti Publishing Awards, Judge, 2013, 2016, 2018
- Poet's Den: Poetry Idol, Judge, 2013



Peggy Robles Alvarado is available for poetry performances, speaking engagements, workshop facilitation and personal or small group creative coaching

**For more information or to contact
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