

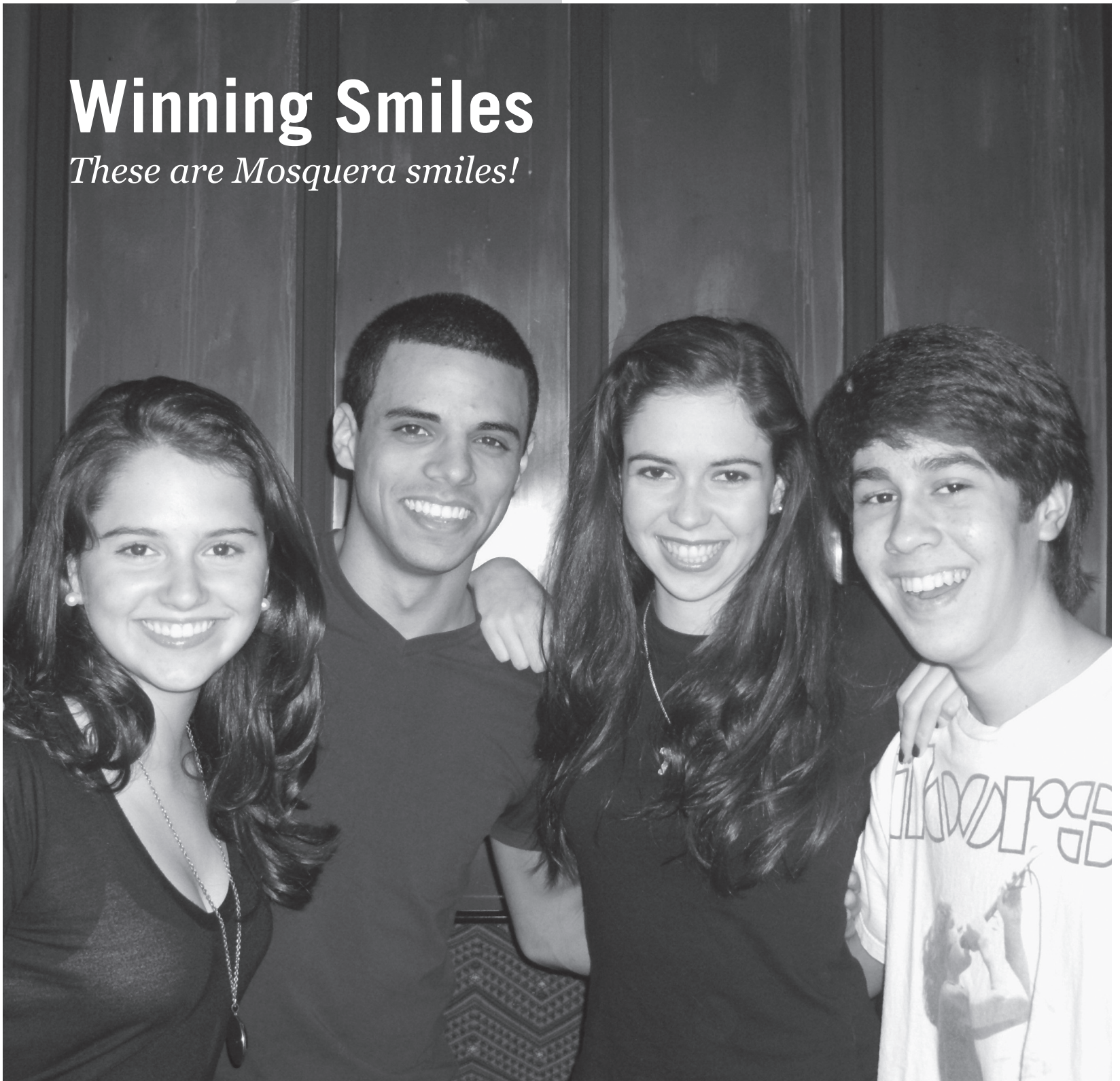
VOL. XI NO. 01 / SPRING 2010

Star Smiles News

A Publication of Mosquera Orthodontics

Winning Smiles

These are Mosquera smiles!





1) Daniel Sanchez's graduation photo. 2) Photo at the De Soto Fountain, Coral Gables. 3) Photo at Dr. Mosquera's home. 4) From left: Alexandra, Victoria, Javier and Danny as children. 5) Yearbook cover art by Alexandra Sexton. 6) Yearbook photo of Alexandra.

Winning Smiles

These are Mosquera smiles!

BY DR. ARTURO F. MOSQUERA



From left: Alexandra, Javier, Victoria and Danny.

When two of my relatives, a nephew and a niece, were selected as "BEST SMILE" for their schools, I was extremely happy and proud not only are they family, but I had recently completed their orthodontic treatment. Danny Sánchez won "Best Smile" for the 2010 high school graduating class at La Salle Immaculata and Alexandra Sexton won "Best Smile" for the 2010 eighth grade graduating class at St. Theresa.

Ever since Danny, my cousin's Teresita (who is like a sister to me) and Ramiro's son, got his braces off, his beaming smile had won praise from all who know him. Alexandra, my sister's Ana and husband's Tim daughter, received another one of those "million dollar" smiles that orthodontists with the right education, experience and dedication can obtain for their patients.

My older children, Carolina and Arturo, were born much earlier and when Danny was born it was the beginning of a younger generation of cousins in Miami. Our cousin Ubaldo (who is also like a brother to me) and his wife Petra had two boys but they live in California. Victoria, Alexandra's older sister was born shortly afterwards, followed by our younger son, Javier, and then Alexandra. These four cousins have been very close all their lives because of the proximity of their ages, frequent family gatherings and their homes being five to ten minutes from each other.

Victoria and Javier also received and completed their orthodontic treatment recently as well. They also have winning smiles! Although they have not yet received an official "Best Smile" recognition, I know they are receiving many compliments daily on their smiles too.

It has always been my philosophy to treat all of my patients as if they were my own family. I always strive for perfection in all my patients for the aesthetics of a beautiful face, a fabulous **star** smile and an excellent occlusion and bite.

The extra effort, both for the patient and the doctor, pays off with a result that can make a significant difference in the patient's life. Sometimes it takes longer and costs more, but you really can't buy a "million dollar" smile. It is truly a gift!

I know everyone of my patients that put forth a good effort has been justly rewarded. Each day when they wake up and take a look in the mirror they realize they too have a winning smile!

Felicidades to the Quinceañeras

Quinceañeras patients since our spring 2009 issue of *Star Smiles News*.

Daniela Abreu, Yennyfer Aguilar, Cecilia Alfonso, Erika Andrade, Cristina Aparicio, Carolina Arias, Amanda Avila, Laura Ayala, Nashlyn Barbosa, Daniella Benedi, Bianca Benedi, Paulina Bollat, Bianca Bovo, Cecilia Cano, Sigal Carmenate, Adriana Casanova, Jasmine Chavez, Caterina Cicienia, Monika Coll, Laura Collazos, Victoria Corrales, Karina Cortés, Gabriela Corzo, Elizabeth Cotto-Pérez, Alexa Cuevas, Amanda Daher, Chanel Dahl, Monique del Canal, Jessica del Sol, Jessica Diego, Amaris Domínguez, Alyssa Domínguez, Natalia Dondo, Alexandra Echevarría, María Enríquez, Allyson Escobar, Jesenia Espinosa, Natalie Estrada, Ashley Expósito, Gabriella Falla, Melisa Fermín, Jessica Fernández, Vanessa Flores, Deborah Fonseca, Carolina Freitas, Alexis García, Kaylen García, Krystina González, Ilianet González, Kassandra González, Brittanie González, Elizabeth González, Evelyn González, Eileen González, Christina González, Gabriellz González, Priscilla González, Alexandra González-Orbego, Diana Guedes-Leal, Anabel Guevara, Samantha Haddad, Brithany Hernández, Jessica Hernández, Sandra Hernández, Johanna Hidalgo, Anne Marie Hunter, Yesenia Illa, Daniela Iturralde, Paloma Izquierdo, Natalie Jiménez, Ashley Jirón, Mercy Kim, Judith Laborde, Rosa María Labrada, Jennifer Lapeyre, Sofia Larrosa, Sophia Legido, Isadora Leiva, Natalie Leizán, Vivian Lemus, Mariaelisa Londoño, Michell López, Alexa Luengo, Alexa Machado, Carolina Maldonado, Michelle Marchante, Briana Martínez, Daisy Martínez, Fina Marzoa, Leinad Mateos, Jessica Mena, Jenifer Méndez, Claudier Molina, Melissa Molina, Mariana Montoya, Nicole Morales, Samantha Morfa, Alexandra Navarro, Crystal Ortiz, Claudia Pacheco, María Palenzuela, Elizabeth Perea, Gabriela Pérez, Jeannie Pérez, Camilla Pohudka, Carolina Ponce, Andrea Ponte, Erica Pou, Bianca Prado, Stephanie Prieto, Alexandra Puentes, Kinsley Rants, Catharina Ribeiro, Claudia Romero, Allison Saavedra, Monica Sabatés, Fabiola Salazar, Carolina Sánchez, Alexandra Sexton, Clarissa Trabanino, Karima Trabelsi, Sophia Treto, Kashaf Uddin, Christabel Valdés, Hope Valdés, Claudia Valdés, Rebecca Valdés-Denis, Gisel Velázquez, Carolina Vera, María Zúñiga and Samantha Zúñiga.



1) Daniela's first dance with her dad, Dr. Ignacio Iturralde. 2) Daniela's birthday cake. 3) Invitation to her Sweet 16. 4) Daniela dedicating her sixteen candles.



A thank you from our patient
Aileen Grosz.

"Mis Quince" Natalie Leizan



Our congratulations to our patient Natalie Leizan on her Quince celebration.

Graduates with a Star Smile

We all have a Mosquera smile!

Ariel Freedman, Valeria, Czetyrko, Katherine Trujillo, Cristian Rodríguez, Juan Alvarado, Leilani del Valle, Alexandra Rojas, Gabriel Manfugas, Jr., Natalia Quiñones, Janelle Alvarez, Kevin Díaz, Frank Herrera, Mario Luis Méndez, Monica Sabatés, Javier Mosquera, Carolyn Rubido, Samantha Haddad, Yuliet García, Adriana Rodríguez, Gabriela Iturralde, Christian Palomo, Marc Loven, Lirian Dondo, Erica Pou, Gisel Velázquez, Carlos Espina, Camila Hernández, Gianna Fernández, Alexander Hernández, Michele Lorenzo, Joshua Araujo, Krystina González, Diandra Fernández, Cecilia Alfonso, Natalia Correa, Jessica Diego, Jocelyn Díaz, Pierre Hernández, Luis Loret de Mola, Vanessa Flores, Scarlett Rodríguez, Richard Rodríguez, Sophia Treto, Sofia Carvajal, Natalie Leizan, Daniela Ruadez, Sydney García, Diamelis Pordomingo, Pedro del Toro, Julio Comas, Alexandra Navarro, Ashley Expósito, Carlos A. Arrocha, Stephanie Jara-Escobar, Rebeca de Leoni, Hoil Ho, Valerie Millán, Karina Marrero, Marcelo Abinum, Alexander Vargas, Andrea Ponte, Cassandra Doyle, Andrés Vázquez, Janmichael Pohudka, Michelle Marchante, Karima Trabelsi, Marco Llamozas, Carlos Yepes, Nicole Castro, Domingo Fermín, Gissell Hernández, Ernesto Fernández, Samantha Valdés, Rosi Calzada, Nina Guerrerom Angelica Rufin, Fernanda Izola, Jessica Labrador, Jason Labrador, Andre Senior, Cristina Luiggi, Luis Chavarria, Alexandra Martin, Dayani Landívar, Sadia L. Dubón, Hope Valdés, Daneska Melo, Ana López, Javier Espinosa, Elizabeth González, Jennifer Blanco, Sandra Barrios, Alette Barboza, Raúl Cubiña, Carlos Hernández, Maribel Rodríguez, Pierce Fernández, María Antúnez, Aileen Grosz, Madeline Santiago-Rivera, Gisel Morales, Kristen Hajassadollah, Veronica Bermúdez, Camilla Pohudka, Anilu Macedo, Dannie García, Griela Chiroldé, Jorge Moreira, Diana Guedes-Leal, Ivan Canales, Eric M. Martí, Jairo Valdivia, Jorge L. Nosti, Mabel Yanes, Mileidy Largo, Cecilia Cano, Jennifer Hernández, Gabriel Crespo, Lilia Molina, Evelyn González, Christina González, Nicholas López, Jesenia Espinosa, José Noy, Ruxandra Gutiérrez, Madelin Martínez, Beatriz Jiménez, Tatiana Felicevich, Yaumel Betancourt, Elisandra Tomazoni, Danny Quijano, Antonio Díaz, Alberto Gil, Carolina Arias, Cecilia Nosti, Vanessa Hoyos, Zeida Llanes, Kashaf Uddin, Cindy Rayo, Tamara Barreto, Victor González, Amanda Daher, Albanely Roque-Escobar, Albalidia Roque-Escobar, Carolina Freitas,

Thuyen Van, Thuy Van, Miriam Exantus, Minerva Cabezas, Bruno Carvalho, Victoria Campos, Evelyn I. Pinto, Amaia Oregui, Maria J. Pérez, Gabriela Corzo, Sofia Larrosa, Alyssa Domínguez, Mariana Zapata, Jorge A. Nosti, Kendy Zamora, Jennie Fortunato, Stefani Rodríguez, Chris Alvarez, Kevin Cabrera, Thao Dang, Gerardo Cabezas, Alexandra Larios, Yesenia Illa, Erika Vilau, José Leal, Jasmine Chávez, Christa Threadgill, Daylen del LLano, Agustín Arce, Krystina Williams, Yeal Escorcía, Fabiola Salazar, Monica Puig, Arnaldo Delgado, Natividad Guillén, Nicole Morales, Ariel Curti, Clarissa Trabanino, Jorge Rodríguez, Sr., Marta Cuervo, María D. Zapata, Melissa Molina, Giselle Pérez, Matthew Sierra, Cristian Carvajal, Stephanie Prieto, Alexander Salazar, Eyllin Martínez, Bryan Alvarez, Andrés García, Yolanda Baez, Jessica Hernández, Rommel Gavarrete, Frank González, Gabriela González, Yesenia Delgado, Andrés Noy, Pedro Luis de los Ríos, Alexa Machado, Kattia Latino, Diego Esquivel, Efraín Consuegra, Anthony Vera, Juan López, Adrian Abreu, Clara Caraballo, Monica Echeverri, Steven Mosquera, Olga Bermúdez, Thalia Morales, Nicolás Hernández, Abdiel Caballero, Freddy Zerón, Carmen Méndez, Judith González, Jesús Ablán, Greys Martin, Omar Chávez, Vanessa Fernández, Antonio Fontanella, Laura Ramos, Michael Sánchez, Jacqueline Menéndez, Jeanette Menéndez, Cristian Cardona, Brandon Milián, John Paul Mijares, Jonatan Alvarez, Adriana Cabada, Christian Meleán, Gina Fonseca, Liliett Igarza, Frank Iparraguirre, Allyson Escobar, Gelsys Gómez, William Lledo, Barbara Zozores, Mariaelisa Londoño, Stephanie Ramírez, Marco Zapata, Aura Rodolfo, Linda Molina, Lorena Almeida, Giociska López, Stace McFarlane, Osmani González, Susan Thomas, Catharina Ribeiro, Carolina Caputo, Camilo J. Rodrigues, Lina Parker, Monique del Canal, Yaniel Pérez, Anais Saavedra, Maryvís García, Kevin Portela, Patricia Padrón, Martha C. González, Alejandro Rodríguez, Pablo Padillo, Daniela Abreu, Julian Seekins, Jenifer Méndez, Nydia Montag-Ortiz, Yamilet Yuen, Janel García, Nohelia Orozco, Silvia Merino, Horacio de los Santos, Anne Forkner, Adrian F. Ruiz, Nashlyn Barbosa, Isadora Leyva, Albani P. Gómez, Javier García, Heriberto Montenegro, Carolina Cesar, Kristina Rivero, Jeffrey Silveira, Amanda Cabrera, Gerardo González, Manuel Codina, Félida Rodríguez, Kashief Hutchinson and Eric Jinright.

The Rape of a Nation and the Soul of its People

La mentira puede estar escondida mas de cien años y en un día la verdad la descubre
—José Martí.

BY DR. ARTURO F. MOSQUERA



1) Lazarus risen from the dead. 2) The one and only and the evil empire. 3) Clone Fidel - aspiring to be El Cid Campiador? 4) Yerba mala (weed) nunca muere, todo por la patria. 5) 20 years after the Wall. Unfortunately, the domino effect did not work for all communist countries.

As I have contemplated the fragility of life from our own recent family experience, I have also reflected on my personal life history after leaving Cuba at nine years of age, back in 1962, to come into exile in the United States. My family, like so many others, has lost many of our relatives back in Cuba, as well as here in the U.S. After 48 years of exile, I cannot forget the pain we have endured as our older generations have died without seeing Cuba be free again. Many in exile had the illusion of returning to their beloved island after the end of communism.



1) Funeralary card for Fidel. 2) Fidel this is your house box. 3) Julio Antonio. *Goodbye*, 1993, acrylic on canvas, 78 x 70 in. 4) Fidel monster mash. 5) Fifo "tostadito." 6) Mis peores deseos (my worst wishes). 7) Buena Vista.



1) Basurero (trash). 2) Basurero (trash) detail 01. 3) Basurero (trash) detail 02. 4) Self explanatory.

Back in the summer of 1989, I visited Germany for the first time. It was very emotional to feel the tension firsthand between the East and the West. Several months later that year, I regret not having gotten on an airplane and flown back to experience in person the fall of the Berlin wall and East Germany. While in Miami, many expected Cuba's communist dictatorship to also fall soon after the demise of the Soviet Union. I had no such expectation since Cuba is an island and had different dynamics, namely one evil dictator, Fidel Castro, who studied Hitler, Stalin, Mao,

other oppressors and implemented in Cuba improved tyrannical strategies to doom the Cuban population.

Eventually communist Cuba survived the downfall of the USSR by becoming more closely allied with communist China and using its model. Economy and political ruthlessness with no space for dissidence and responding with brutal mortal force are standard operating procedures and have been evident for the last twenty years. Those who hope that a positive democratic change would be coming with Fidel's illness and convalescence, and the transfer of dictatorial power to his brother Raul should look at what China has done to shatter any expectation of what an open embargo would accomplish with real democratic changes.

As new reports of Fidel Castro's illness and expectation of his eventual death have run rampant over the last three years, I have decided I can no longer wait for another of our Cuban or Cuban-American loved ones, whether old or young, to pass away while the leader of Cuba's failed communist revolution, who has brought nothing but destruction to the Cuban nation and its people, lingers on. So, I have decided not to wait any longer, but to officially declare him dead and bury the tyrant. There may be more of him, since many believe that he has been cloned, but, for me, he is dead an no more. As the pastor of the parish of the Church of the Little Flower, Rev. Arthur Dennison, so eloquently stated in a recent sermon, "If there is no justice in this world, then just wait for eternal justice at the Last Judgment." Let's do the "monster mash," sing and dance on!

Thanks to the wisdom and foresight of my maternal grandfather, Francisco (Panchito) Pereira, the seven members of our family who fled the island have been living in the "Land of the Free", a country full of countless opportunities. Abuelo Panchito, as he was affectionately known, gathered his family together one evening and told them "I do not want my grandchildren to grow up under communism, so, you must leave Cuba now". This was a difficult and painful decision which continues to split the family's remaining living relatives to this very day. Our family takes great pride and honor in their sacrifice for the wellbeing of the children at the time.

I have dedicated this issue of Star Smiles News to all the victims of the Cuban communist regime in its many forms.

LA YERBA MALA NUNCA MUERE...LA YERBA MALA FINALLY DIES!

GOOD RIDDANCE!

1) Liu Xiao Bo dedicates Nobel Peace Prize to martyrs of Tiananmen Square. 2) Another freedom. 3) Tiananmen locked down for anniversary. Chinese silence public commemoration of massacre.



1) Democracy and tyranny. 2) Pueblos, hechiceria y brujas. 3) Dime quien andas y te dire quien eres. 4) Another great leader. 5) More of the same. 6) OAS lifts 1962 suspension of Cuba. 7) Self evident.



1) The magnificent seven—the original seven exiles from 1962. 2) Once a year foam crosses are erected in Miami as a Cuban memorial honoring those killed by the Cuban revolution. 3) Liborio meets the Statue of Liberty in front of Lydia Rudio's Valle de Viñales landscape Halloween 2006.

To All the Victims

Of Cuda's Communist revolution and the Castro dictatorship.

This issue of Star Smiles News is dedicated to all the victims of Cuba's Communist Revolution and the Castro Dictatorship. In addition to the many Cubans shot by firing squads by decree of Fidel Castro or other revolutionary assassins, there have been countless others jailed and tortured.

Too many Cuban families have suffered through separation as exiles. Thousands of Cubans, both old and young, have died without returning to their country of birth or seeing it free. A vast number of victims have died at sea and several (four) members of Brothers to the Rescue were murdered shot out of the sky.

Pooh Bear and Politics

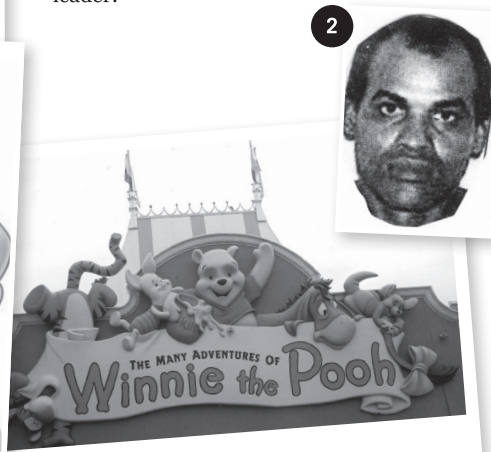
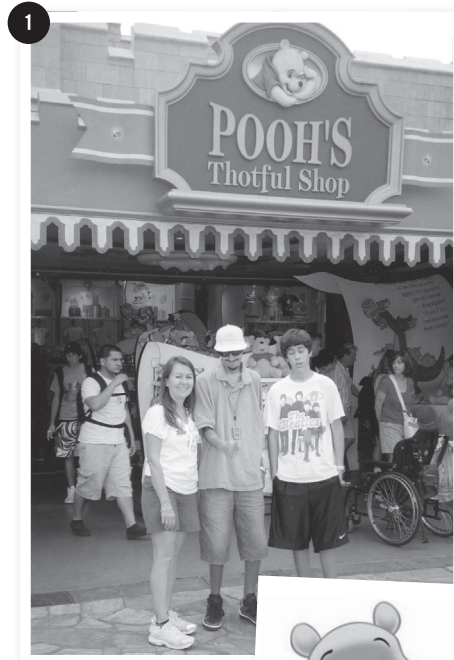
Injuries throughout history.

BY DR. ARTURO F. MOSQUERA

As the historic 2008 presidential election moved along its course, our family was more focused on our son Arturo's recovery since he was still hospitalized from his devastating brain injury. Arturo had been born in Memphis in 1982, the city of blues, Elvis Presley, and where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. Coincidentally, Arturo was born on January 15, which was also the birthday of his paternal grandmother, Mariana, and from whom he inherited his incredible sense of humor. As Arturo was receiving therapies at the Ryder Trauma Center, everyone at the hospital was talking about the upcoming elections constantly. One of the nurses wanted Arturo and Liza to go vote with several other patients to a nearby site. Among all the commotion, Arturo was distraught about his absentee ballot and any potential fraud. He voiced this concern repeatedly over several days. One evening after work I was speaking with him and testing his long term memory of recollection of childhood events. So, I questioned him about Winnie the Pooh, Christopher Robin, Eyeore, Piglet, Owl, Tigger, etc. He demonstrated his knowledge of the characters with great accuracy and we were happy that his memory as a young boy had not been lost.

Well, the next day at a large group therapy session, politics came up again and they were asking who was going to vote for whom. When Arturo was asked, he immediately replied he was voting for Winnie the Pooh! Laughter broke out amidst the congregated group and then cheers. I wondered later if there had been any write-ins votes for Pooh Bear.

Following the elections and the historical win by Barack Obama as the first elected black President of the United States of America, I felt a great sense of pride in our nation, that a president of the black race was chosen by the majority of the voting citizens and with the support of a large segment of the voting population that was not black like Mr. Obama. It is a true democracy in action. The night of the election I stayed up to see the final results and speeches of the historic event. I was very proud of Mr. John McCain's conceding speech, even in his loss. He was an admirable statesman and American in his support of the new president.



1) Arturito with Liza and Javier at a recent trip to the Magic Kingdom. 2) Orlando Zapata Tamayo.

In present day Cuba under the dictatorship of the Castro brothers, there are heroic black Cubans that are imprisoned, tortured, denied medical care, and have died because of political differences. Orlando Zapata Tamayo, Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet, and Guillermo Fariñas are but a few of the examples of courageous dissidents who have been imprisoned or died for their political beliefs.

Opening up relations, travel and commerce with the Cuban totalitarian communist regime without democratic changes is lamentable. The Cuban people living in the island will continue to experience the horrors of the Cuban Revolution.

Perhaps Winnie the Pooh would be a suitable candidate for the election of Cuba's next great leader!



To Lolita,
The best piano teacher in the world. May God bless you in your years to come. You are very nice and patient with us. We love you.
Jennifer & Arlene

Lolita Martinez

A grand Cuban lady.

BY DR. ARTURO F. MOSQUERA

Back in 1987 our family was blessed when Lolita came into our lives. Lolita came from Cuba as an exile with her husband in the early sixties. She used her previous knowledge and talent to contribute financially to her family by teaching piano lessons to a very appreciative group of students.

Our dear friends Dr. Andrés and Rosie Cendán, to whom the last issue of Star Smiles News was dedicated, recommended Lolita to us for our daughter Carolina's piano classes. Lolita taught their children Andy and Arlene, as well as many of their other friends' children. They all loved and respected this grand lady.

Arlene Cendán says "To this day I remember her passion for playing and wanting us to succeed in the instrument" and, in the words of Andy Cendán, "Lolita was very instrumental, and a very big part in my life. I remember how patient she was with me, which you all know, that when I was younger, I was CANDELA! For whatever reasons she put me in place and I Respected her Tremendously. I just knew that it was time to stop clowning around and get the notes right. Playing the piano helped me concentrate and focus better. One of the things that I would like to do later in life, if all goes well, is Play The Piano Again!!".

When Liza and I met her, we were struck by her class and demeanor. We were elated that not only our daughter would learn to play the piano but, in the process, she would receive an awesome general education in everything

from attitude, commitment, discipline, character, taste, philosophy, ideology, Castilian grammar and pronunciation.

I would enjoy Lolita's weekly visits and the opportunity to share a little bit of time after class with a truly great person. Over time our friendship grew even stronger.

Eventually Carolina's piano classes paid off as she mastered the instrument. I was thrilled when she played Pachabel's Cannon in D and dedicated it to her parents.

As things are in that the world is truly a small place, it turned out Lolita was the aunt of an extremely important Cuban American visual artist, María Brito, whose work we admired and had collected. Through Lolita's introduction we also became very good friends with María, traveling to Lima, Perú to see her work "Pero sin amo" in a biennial selection curated by Ricardo Pau-Llosa, my high school classmate from Belen. Most recently we invited María Brito to participate in the Mosquera Orthodontics Art@Work program with "Seedling", which you can read about elsewhere in this issue.

Lolita touched many lives in the years she taught all her students. She enhanced their lives, as well as those who came to know this fabulous woman, in countless ways. For the pleasure of having known her we remain forever grateful.

María Brito's exhibit in the Art@Work project is an essential show in the space. Back in 2002 in A Message from Dr. Mosquera in our Star Smiles News, Volume I, Issue 4, the issue of terrorist training was addressed in his text and one of Dr. Mosquera's orthodontic patients at the time, Hermes Moutardier, an American Airlines flight attendant who fought the 'shoe bomber', Richard Reid, and heroically prevented an act of terrorism by a terrorist cell. Ms. Moutardier was highlighted in the same issue as well as in Volume 1, Issue 6.



Seedlings (detail), 2005, mixed media installation, 20 @ 20 x 10 x 5-1/2 inches

María Brito

A reception for the artist will take place at our office on Saturday, January 30, 2010 from 7 to 9 p.m. You and your family are invited to attend.

Maria Brito's work has been featured in such exhibitions as Exhibition of World Open-Air Sculpture Invitational, Olympic Sculpture Park, Seoul, Korea, ...pero sin amo, Second Iberoamerican Biennial of Lima, Peru, Cuba Twentieth Century: Modernism and Syncretism, Atlantic Center of Modern Art, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria; La Caixa Foundation, Palma de Mallorca; Santa Monica Art Center, Barcelona, Spain, The Decade Show, New Museum of Contemporary Art, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, Studio Museum in Harlem, NY, Transcending the Borders of Memory, Norton Gallery of Art, West Palm Beach, FL, Rites of Passage/Sculpture and Painting 1988-1998, Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Arte Latino: Treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum, El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX, American Art Today/Faces and Figures, The Art Museum at Florida International University, Miami, FL, Outside Cuba, Zimmerli Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Cuba/USA, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, IL, Las Goyescas, Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami, FL, and Breaking Barriers: Selections from the Museum of Contemporary Cuban Art Collection, Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Brito's public art projects include: Olympic Sculpture Park, Seoul, Korea and Art in Public Places, Miami, FL. Her work can be found as part of the collections of museums such as National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, TX, Cintas Foundation at Florida International University Frost Art Museum, Miami, FL, Lowe Art

Museum, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, and Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, FL. She is the recipient of the following selected awards: Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant (2006), Florida Department of State Fellowship (1979, 1988, 1996, 2001), Virginia A Groot Foundation Grant (1994), South Florida Consortium Fellowship (1990, 1992), Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant (1990), Cintas Fellowship (1981, 1985).

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Seedlings is one of a number of recent works where I address issues related to the dark side of human nature. This piece, where men are being created, hints at their potential as destructive forces as they are to be disseminated throughout the world.

Todd Behrens, curator of the Polk Museum of Art, writes of this body of works as "connected to the idea that humankind itself has built into the structures of our societies and cultures the means of its own demise...."



Brown Sugar (detail), 2001, mixed media on paper, 28 x 36 inches

William Cordova

A reception for the artist will take place at our office on Saturday, May 8th, 2010 from 7 to 9 p.m. You and your family are cordially invited to attend.

Born 1971 in Lima, Peru; lives in Houston, Texas, Miami, Florida, and New York, New York

William Cordova's work is tied to an urban ecology of obsolescence, disparity, and displacement. Busted cars, trashed tires, discarded shoes, machetes, speakers, and books yellowed with age provide the material support and iconographic program for his drawings, collages, and installations. For the artist, these material choices reference the reality of lived experience, as opposed to the spectacle of culture, mass-produced for constant consumption. The fluency with which Cordova traverses media and remixes cultural signifiers confirms his visual multilinguism, as barbed as it is lived-in.

The range of Cordova's sources is strikingly evident in the titles of works like *Medgar Evers* (2005), *daniel boone*, *pat boone & mary boone (y los Olmec's?)* (2006), and *Arrow of god (4-chinua achebe)* (2006). His rapaciousness shows as well in his frequent use of color symbols, as in the red and black in *O. T. atsinadnas* (2007), at once referring to the colors of the Sandinista flag, a politically charged image for some viewers, and existing purely as formal composition. As an extension of his individual artistic practice, Cordova has collaborated with fellow artist/writer Leslie Hewitt through their BASE collective on projects such as *I Wish It Were True* (for more information about this project, please see Hewitt's artist entry in this catalogue). Another project, *From the Root* (2006-), utilizes existing billboards to activate dialogue within their respective communities

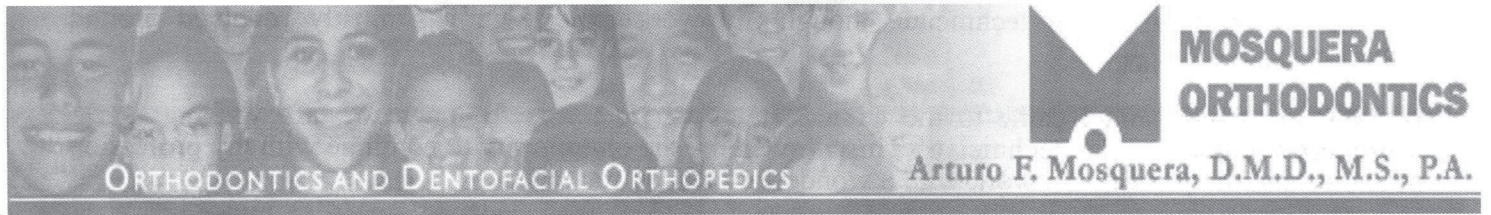
by listing names of activists in an anti-chronological and -hierarchical fashion.

Cordova has been preoccupied with issues of transformation and interpretation since his youth, owing partly to his own transitions between countries, economies, and languages. Having recently moved from Lima to Miami, the six-year-old found comfort in the sight of what he thought were familiar Peruvian cajón drums scattered on the streets, but which were in fact discarded speaker boxes. The hulking *Badussy* (or *Machu Picchu after dark*) (2004-05) dominates the gallery with some two hundred old speakers stacked to suggest a pre-Columbian monolith. Similarly addressing the fragility of history through an ephemeral environment, *The House that Frank Lloyd Wright built 4 Fred Hampton and Mark Clark* (2006), shown at Arndt & Partner Berlin in 2006, is a dizzying room-scale labyrinth of wooden beams based on the footprint of the house where Black Panthers Fred Hampton and Mark Clark were killed by Chicago police in a predawn raid in 1969. Much of Cordova's work induces similarly uncanny interpretive spirals, abetted not by arbitrary Surrealist juxtapositions but the all-too-common strangeness of our own detritus and the too-often repressed histories they conceal.



**MOSQUERA
ORTHODONTICS**

*Arturo F. Mosquera, D.M.D., M.S., P.A.
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
1245 SW 87th Avenue
Miami, FL 33174*



Visit our website: www.starorthodontics.com

