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Commencing Fall 2019

We are writing to you about a very exciting project with which you are intimately connected.

This coming year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Puerto Rican and Latino Studies Department (PRLS) at Brooklyn College, one of the first in the nation. To recognize and celebrate the movements that led to this event, the **Alliance for Puerto Rican Education and Empowerment (APREE)** has committed to produce a short educational-film on the founding of PRLS with a focus on the struggle that led up to it, as well as the impact the department has had on the generations that came after.

The **Alliance for Puerto Rican Education and Empowerment, APREE**, is a nonprofit organization with a mission *to advocate for social transformation through programs focused on education and the advancement of the Puerto Rican community*. Participants of APREE have been and are engaged civically and socially in the local and broader community. Many of the founders of APREE are alumni of the City University of New York. Some are retired or nearly retired. All have benefitted from growing up at a time of great change and social awareness that included giving back to our communities. These experiences have positively impacted our lives.

To continue the legacy of giving back, they founded APREE.

As you well know the current political moment is very charged and there is much to learn from our struggles during the time when we were most active in transforming education at CUNY, through the establishment of ethnic studies, bilingual education, and open admissions among many other victories. These victories, while continuously facing challenges have had a huge impact on our youths education; an impact that is often made invisible. This is one of the reasons this film is so important. It will serve to document the efforts and the commitment of so many in the struggle for ethnic studies and in particular Puerto Rican Studies, as well as to educate future generations.

Looking forward to keep you updated about upcoming updates and programming related to this film!

You can reach Gisely Colón López, Project Coordinator, Producer, and APREE Board Secretary via email: g.colonlopez@gmail.com to obtain more information.

*This short film is being produced solely by **The Alliance for Puerto Rican Education and Empowerment, APREE**.



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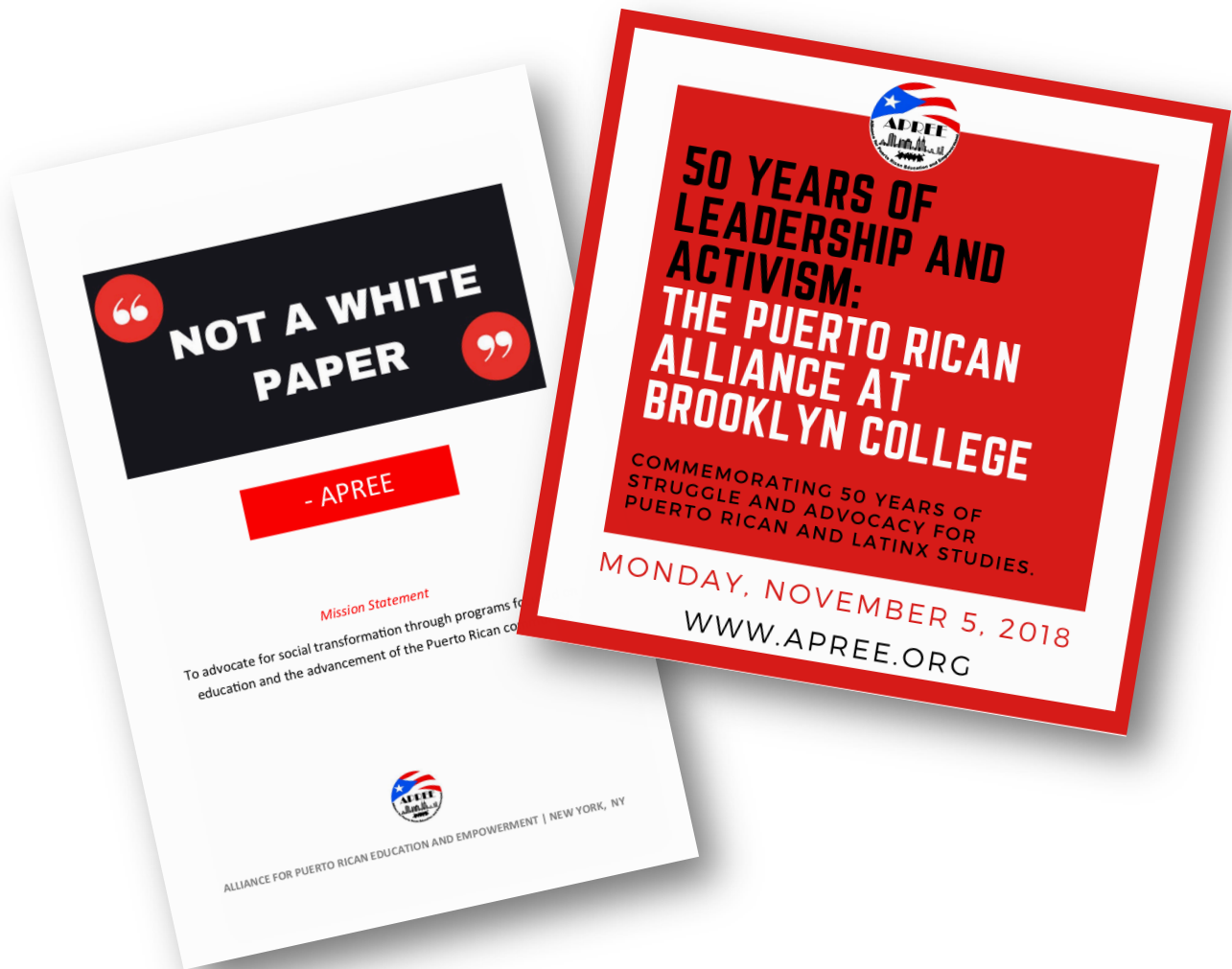
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Visit us, www.apree.org to download our publications and learn about upcoming events!