

GARIFUNA COALITION USA, Inc.

info@garifunacoalition.org

www.garifunacoalition.org

Garifuna Coalition Nominated to a Union Square Award

Making important contributions to New York City's Garifuna Community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 12, 2009

Contact: José Francisco Ávila (917) 783-5298

info@garifunacoalition.org

New York – The Board of Directors of the Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc. a, nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit is pleased to announce that the it has been nominated for a [Union Square Award](#).

The Union Square Award recognizes grassroots activists making important contributions to New York City. It identifies visionaries and risk takers who, motivated by a passion for human rights, address society's most pressing social, political and economic concerns. Through organizing, advocacy, education and direct services, their actions bring diverse communities into public discourse and serve as an inspiration to others.

“This nomination validates the fact that we are on the right track, making a significant difference for our people whom we love dearly,” said Rejil Solis, Chairman of the Board of the Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc.

As part of its grassroots community organizing efforts, the Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc. has taken the lead to include the Garifuna Immigrant Community into the civic process of New York City by working diligently on its mission to improve the social, economic, civic and cultural conditions of the Garifuna Immigrant Community in New York City and serving as an advocate and a united voice. It recently opened the Garifuna Advocacy Center in The Bronx and established Garifuna Heritage Month to honor the experiences and contributions of Garifuna immigrants in the City of New York and to bring it into public discourse and serve as an inspiration to the next generation.

The Union Square Awards are named for the park on 14th Street, a historic gathering place where since the nineteenth century New Yorkers have organized and spoken out about major social issues. Known as a forum for the poor and disenfranchised, Union Square is identified with strong commitments and highlights the essential qualities embodied in the award.

To engage the disenfranchised Garifuna Immigrant Community in the political process, the Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc recently launched a nonpartisan voter registration campaign with the goal of registering new voters, and mobilizing them to turn out at the polls. Furthermore, it has become an official 2010 Census Partner so that together with the U.S. Census Bureau, it can secure a complete and accurate 2010 Census count of the Garifuna Community.

About the Union Sqaure Awards.

The Union Square Awards program was established in 1998 by an anonymous donor to support innovative grassroots organizations responding to New York City's most pressing social issues and making vital contributions through their efforts to the educational, economic and cultural life of the City.

About the Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc.

The Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc. is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization which serves as a resource, a forum, and advocate for Garifuna issues and a united voice for the Garifuna community.

Garifuna Pride - Our Voice - Our Vision

NYS Attorney General Charities Bureau Reg. No: 40-78-09

www.garifunacoalition.org

<http://www.myspace.com/garifunacoalition>