



# **P.S. 48, The Joseph Rodman Drake School** *The Best School in the Universe*

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release

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**Hundreds of PS 48 school children, faculty, community members and guests at Drake Park to commemorate discovery of Hunts Point Slave Burial Ground.**

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 29, 2014, 12 noon to 12:45pm

**WHERE:** Joseph Rodman Drake Park, Hunts Point, Bronx, NY

**WHAT:** PS 48 students will present a musical, spoken word and dance performance to commemorate the hundreds of enslaved and nearly forgotten African-Americans buried in the now-obliterated Hunts Point Slave Burial Ground (HPSBG). Set to the rhythms of an expert African drummer, students will read the names of enslaved Africans buried in the park. The ceremony will include: poetry, dance and a brief African-inspired libation by students and faculty from PS 48.

PS 48, nearly 100 years old and without its own green spaces, is only four blocks from the eponymous Joseph Rodman Drake Park.

In September, 2013, after two years of dogged research and curriculum development work by educators, community partners and PS 48 students, the location of the former HPSBG in was confirmed by a USDA GPR survey of Drake Park.

The school is celebrating the accomplishments of the children and educators involved in the HPSBG Project, who discovered the location of a cemetery of enslaved African Americans who belonged to the Hunts, Leggetts, and Tiffanys interred in the adjacent Drake Cemetery. The HPSBG Project is an educational project co-founded by PS 48, The Joseph Rodman Drake School (Grades Pre-K-5) and federally-funded TAH Grants from the NYC DOE (<http://hpsbg.weebly.com/>).

**WHO:** PS 48 children and HPSBG Project educators, community partners and guests.

**RSVP:** This event is open to press and coverage is welcome.

**1290 Spofford Avenue, Bronx, NY 10474**  
**Roxanne Cardona, Principal**