

Nuestro Mundo, Incorporated



Annual Report 2009

Nuestro Mundo, Inc.
P.O. Box 259936
Madison, WI 53725
www.nuestromundoinc.org

Our Mission

NMI's mission is to develop, manage and promote K-adult language, cross-cultural educational and leadership opportunities by:

- Guiding the growth and development of Nuestro Mundo Community School through site leadership governance, application of measurable standards and high academic achievement;
- Planning innovative middle school programs and a neighborhood learning center ; and,
- Developing productive partnerships through identified community collaborations and public policy.

Our Values

At Nuestro Mundo Incorporated, we value students, families, employees and community members. We will serve them with the highest level of trust and dignity. We will work to promote a diverse and inclusive community. Through these values we will advance NMI.

Licensed By

Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing

Affiliated With

Madison Metropolitan School District
Wisconsin Charter School Association
Department of Public Instruction



Building a Better World Together...Nuestro Mundo!

Message from NMI President



Saludos Dear Friends of Nuestro Mundo, Inc.!

As we say goodbye to 2009, we reflect on the many successes and challenges faced during the previous twelve months. We successfully negotiated a second 5-year charter school contract with the Madison Metropolitan School District. The contract renewal represents many months of intense negotiations by the Bridging Committee, under the leadership of former NMI Board Member, Debora Gil R. Casado. Among other victories, the new contract grants admission preference to siblings of current Nuestro Mundo Community School students, whether or not they reside in the NMCS attendance area. This contract will remain in effect until 2014.

Such victories were tempered by the defeat of our proposal for a project-based learning/dual language immersion charter secondary school. This proposal was the result of three years of research and development by our Secondary School Committee, under the leadership of former NMI Board Member, Roseanne Drake-Schmitz. Although the Board of Education decided against supporting a new charter at the middle school level, we are pleased that the school district did commit to establishing a dual language immersion program to be operated by MMSD within Sennett Middle School. This program is scheduled to open Fall 2010, in time to receive the first children promoted from NMCS.

In July, NMI welcomed several new board members and conducted our first board member orientation, at which our new chart of organization was reviewed. Board members committed themselves to one of three committees and are working diligently toward achieving the goals set forth in our Strategic Plan.

In the fall of 2009, NMI sponsored our second Strategic Plan evaluation session with facilitator, Jon Gramling. We evaluated progress toward achieving the goals set forth in our 2007–2011 plan. In keeping with our mission and values, the evaluation session included not only NMI board members, but also parents, educators and community members. Goals were reviewed and amended as appropriate.

NMI's Community Development Committee is working with DLI and charter professionals to establish new assessment methods for DLI students that better reflect the way in which they learn core curricula. Our goal is to identify viable alternatives to the WKCE assessments that are uniformly administered to all students.

In May 2010, NMI will support NMCS to promote the first fifth graders into Sennett Middle School. We have high hopes for their bright futures which are firmly rooted in the bilingualism and multiculturalism acquired, in large measure, through six years at NMCS.

At NMI we are looking forward to partnering with each of you to continue to forward our mission.

Sinceramente,

Juan José Lopez, President
Nuestro Mundo, Inc.

*NMI President, Juan José Lopez
(upper right) receives a Water Bearer
Award from Village People/ Club TNT.*



Awards and Honors

Charter School of the Year Award Nominee 2008, 2009

Charter School Persons of the Year Nominees 2008

Centro Hispano Roberto G. Sanchez Award Winner 2008

Centro Hispano Roberto G. Sanchez Award Nominee 2009

United Way Community Volunteer Award Nominees 2009

Village People/ Club TNT Water Bearer Award 2008

Aristos Grant Recipient 2009

Distinguished Service Citizen Award 2009

Bryan Grau and Debora Gil R. Casado

Bryan Grau

Debora Gil R. Casado

Bryan Grau & Debora Gil R. Casado

Juan José Lopez


Joshua Forehand*

Jill Tacket-Cornejo*





**representing Nuestro Mundo Community School*

2008

**Charter School Awards of Excellence
School of the Year**



At Nuestro Mundo we join with diverse families and the community to create a successful and unique learning environment through the use of dual language education and democratic decision-making.

Nuestro Mundo
Madison Metropolitan School District





**ROBERTO G. SANCHEZ
RECOGNITION AWARD**

BRYAN GRAU

2008

**Charter School Awards of Excellence
Person of the Year**

**Bryan Grau &
Debora Gil R. Casado**

**Board Members, Nuestro Mundo
Madison Metropolitan School District**

Committee Reports 2009 – 2010

Similar to previous years, 2009 was a busy and productive year for Nuestro Mundo, Inc., filled with both disappointments and successes. NMI's various committee members worked tirelessly to achieve the goals that were set forth in our 2007–2011 Strategic Plan.

Bridging Committee

As the year commenced, NMI had two primary objectives to which most of our time was dedicated. The first objective was the renewal of the charter school contact between the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) and Nuestro Mundo, Inc. (NMI).

The charter school contract negotiations took place among members of the Bridging Committee led by NMI Director, Debora Gil R. Casado. Other NMI Directors participating in the negotiations were Bryan Grau, Juan José Lopez and Judy Kujoth. Members of MMSD represented on the Bridging Committee were Sue Alpanalp, Jenny Allen, and attorney Dan Mallin. While the negotiations were routinely conducted in the spirit of cooperation, there were many significant issues that required strict and lengthy attention. These issues included the negotiation of the admission preferences for the siblings of current students at Nuestro Mundo Community School (NMCS) and the number of kindergarten classes that would be allowed based upon the length of the waiting list.

The Bridging Committee is scheduled to meet every 60 days in 2010 and will be revising NMI's Management Plan, addressing space issues that exist between NMCS and Frank Allis, tackling challenges associated with WKCE testing of DLI students, and other critical topics.

2010 NMI Bridging Committee representatives are Juan José Lopez, Judy Kujoth and Sharon Johnson.

Secondary School Committee

The Secondary School Committee, under the leadership of Roseanne Drake-Schmitz, conducted three years of research and completed a proposal that was presented to the Board of Education in February. While NMI was disappointed to have our charter proposal rejected by the Board of Education, we were thrilled to have achieved a measure of victory when MMSD representatives revealed their intention to create a dual language immersion program within a house at Sennett Middle School. Classes are scheduled to begin with the 2010–11 academic year, in time for the first students to be promoted from NMCS to transition into the program.

This committee disbanded in early 2009 after the Board of Education's rejection of our proposal. A group of educators and other interested persons began meeting in late November 2009 for initial discussions on the feasibility of a DLI program at the high school level that would be proposed for LaFollette High School.

Business/ Structure Committee

Under the leadership of Committee Chair and NMI Vice President, Judy Kujoth, this committee completed the following tasks: (1) redesigned the chart of organization to reflect a more efficient board structure; (2) updated the organization's by-laws, which included more specific definitions of the roles and responsibilities of officers and directors; (3) established a wiki as a repository for board documents and completed training for all board members on its use; (4) planned and implemented NMI's first annual new board member orientation; (5) sponsored a strategic planning evaluation session which included participation from

community members and parents of NMCS students. This committee also worked on recruitment of new board members and was pleased to welcome six new members, bringing our board to full capacity (at 15 members) for the first time since its inception.

School Committee

The School Committee struggled with its identity and with leadership changes in 2009. Historically, the School Committee is among the most complicated committees that NMI has because it attempts to lend a voice to each constituent of the Nuestro Mundo Community School. To this end, it has established subcommittees for the teachers, parents, principal/ administration, and others. Outgoing board member and former board President, Debora Gil R. Casado successfully led this committee for many years and as 2010 is ushered in, the committee remains in need of an ambitious successor. The committee's responsibilities include addressing NMCS student scoring on the annual WKCE assessments, participation in the finalization of the annual School Improvement Plan (SIP), and continued consideration of the most viable structure for the Site Leadership Committee (SLC).

Community Development Committee

This committee was reestablished in 2009. Current goals include fundraising efforts, relationship building and expanding the base of Latino family involvement. The committee will be instrumental in the development of an organizational marketing plan and influencing public policy among other critical tasks.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is comprised of the officers of the board. This committee commits to meeting each month if there are issues that must be acted upon prior to the next scheduled board meeting, and takes action or prepares recommendations as needed. Current officers and Executive Committee members are: President, Juan José Lopez; Vice President, Judy Kujoth; Treasurer, Grant Foster; and Secretary, Ana Salcido.



Juan José Lopez, President



Judy Kujoth, Vice-President



Grant Foster, Treasurer



Ana Salcido, Secretary

NMI-Sponsored Programs

Liderazgo

Liderazgo Workshop training for Latino families is aimed at equipping parents to become active participants in their child's education. Parents are prepared to assume prominent roles in the Site Leadership Governance Council of Nuestro Mundo Community School, volunteer in the classroom, help children with homework and prepare them to achieve positive outcomes on standardized testing. Liderazgo is coordinated by community volunteer and former NMI board member, Nancy Rodriguez.



Nancy Rodriguez,
Liderazgo Chair

Site Leadership Governance Council

Site Leadership Council (SLC) is a parent-led committee that assists in governing the school's activities, focusing largely on student achievement and community building. Monthly meetings feature a variety of speakers on topics related to the success of our school, student achievement and other critical issues. Parents are actively involved in fundraising activities, goal setting, NMI strategic planning and community outreach. They plan and attend special events aimed at fostering a sense of community and bridging language and cultural barriers between native Spanish- and English-speaking families. NMI Directors attempt to provide guidance, leadership and funding upon request.



Summer Programs

Summers are a fun time for the Nuestro Mundo Community! NMI sponsors or co-sponsors a variety of Spanish-language social programs that bring families together to build relationships, enhance understanding of dual language immersion instruction, and provide opportunities for continued Spanish language skill development. But most of all, they help our families have fun and enjoy the summer! Our summer programs include Sábados Gigantes, Family Workshops, and a 3v3 Soccer League.

Sábados Gigantes

Sábados Gigantes are social events, encompassing food, games, music and cultural activities, whose primary focus is on building fraternity and community among Latino and non-Latino families. NMI sponsors these events on several Saturdays throughout the summer and all families and community members are welcomed to attend.



Summer Family Workshops

Family Workshops begin with a modest meal, followed by simultaneous programs for parents and students. Childcare for those under five is also provided. Native Spanish- and English-speaking parents are paired in icebreaker activities to encourage them to meet new people and promote communication despite language barriers. They also enjoy presentations on a variety of instructional topics and strategies on how to help children achieve success in a Dual Language Immersion program. Students engage in activities that explore a variety of Latino cultural traditions. Latino students are encouraged to share traditions of their “home” countries, which are often difficult to maintain as they become assimilated into mainstream American culture. Activities employ story-telling, music, dance, arts and crafts, and festivals in a Spanish immersion environment.



Summer Soccer League

Our summer soccer league, operated through Madison School Community Recreation, serves school-aged children in kindergarten through fifth grade who love playing soccer with friends! Our coaches are typically recruited from the University of Wisconsin-Madison or from among parents of NMCS students. Games and practices are routinely conducted in Spanish.

The league is recreational and welcomes children from all abilities and backgrounds. Games are played

at a variety of venues in Madison, including many on the grounds of Nuestro Mundo Community School! Dedicated parent volunteer, Tawña Bodoh, coordinates the annual league, which NMI supports through the provision of participant medals for all players and the coordination of a potluck picnic for all participants and their families at the end of each season.

We are grateful to Noodles & Company for providing each player with a team t-shirt annually.





Sawdust Carpets

Students and teachers of Nuestro Mundo Community School participate each spring in the creation of sidewalk carpets. A holiday tradition in many Latin American countries, these short-lived constructions are made from rice, beans, flowers, rocks, chalk, coffee and other found materials. Students walk across the carpets after a day or two.

While the religious associations of these creations are deemphasized in the public school system, students are nevertheless able to explore their cultural significance and engage in Spanish language skills throughout the project.



2009 Contributors & Friends of Nuestro Mundo, Inc.

- *Contributors to NMI have donated up to \$499 in 2009.*
- *Friends of NMI have donated a minimum of \$500 in 2009.*
- *Supporters of NMI have issued public statements of support and become community partners toward furthering our mission and/or have provided a gift in kind service or product.*

Contributors

Conklin, Kathleen M.

Drake-Schmitz, Roseanne

Grau, Bryan and Hilda Guzman-Grau

Grau, Wallace E.

Grau, Yvonne L.

Joyce, Peter

Manley, LaShunda R. Prescott

Pichelman, Beth R.

Porro, Daniela M.

Sanchez, Esther Gabriela

Scanlan, Dr. Martin

Slivka, Jean

Vavrin, Carol J.

Zepeda-Capistran, Alfonso

Friends

Monona Methodist Church, (Rev. Rafael Cubilette)

Madison Springs Inc., (Roseanne Drake-Schmitz and Larry Schmitz)

Kaufman Grant

Supporters

Alvarado Real Estate Group

Ana Zambie, HEP Administrator, MATC

Bert Zipperer, MMSD Educator

Centro Hispano, Peter Munoz, Executive Director

Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk

Howard Landsman, MMSD Grants and Funds Development Coordinator, Retired

Jonathan Gramling, Publisher & Editor, Capital City Hues

LUCa, Salvador Carranza, Executive Director

Mayor Dave Cieslewicz

OSA, LLC, Bob Morris, President; Buck Rhyme, Senior Partner

Pedro M. Suarez, Director for Latino Ministries, Bethel Lutheran Church

Romilia Schleuter, B.S., M.A., Family Resource Center of Dane County

Senator Herb Kohl

Wisconsin Charter School Association, John Gee, Executive Director

Nuestro Mundo, Inc. is a proud member
of Community Shares of Wisconsin.



Statements of Financial Position

Financial statements for 2009 have been audited by Wegner LLP of Madison, Wisconsin in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States of America.

Nuestro Mundo, Inc. is an exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and therefore, is not subject to federal and state income or franchise taxes.

NMI is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets:

Unrestricted net assets—Net assets that are not restricted by donors. Designations are voluntary board-approved segregations of unrestricted net assets for specific purposes, projects, or investments.

Temporarily restricted net assets—Net assets whose use has been limited by donor-imposed time restrictions or purpose restrictions.

Permanently restricted net assets—Net assets that have been restricted by donors to be maintained by Nuestro Mundo in perpetuity.

2009 Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 4,417
Prepaid Expenses	450
	<hr/>
Total Assets	\$ 4,867
	<hr/>
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$ 3,867
Temporarily Restricted	1,000
Permanently Restricted	-
	<hr/>
Total Net Assets	\$ 4,867
	<hr/>

2009 Statement of Activities

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions	\$	1,669
Grants		-
Other		90
		<hr/>

Total Unrestricted Support & Revenue 1,759

EXPENSES

Program Services	2,826
Supporting Activities	
Management & General	1,725
Fundraising	946
	<hr/>

Total Supporting Activities

 2,671

Total Expenses 5,497

NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS

Restrictions satisfied by payments

 1,000

Changes in unrestricted net assets (2,738)

TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Contributions	-
Net Assets released from restrictions	
Restrictions satisfied by payments	(1,000)
	<hr/>

Change in temporarily restricted net assets

 (1,000)

Change in net assets (3,738)

Net Assets—Beginning of Year

 8,605

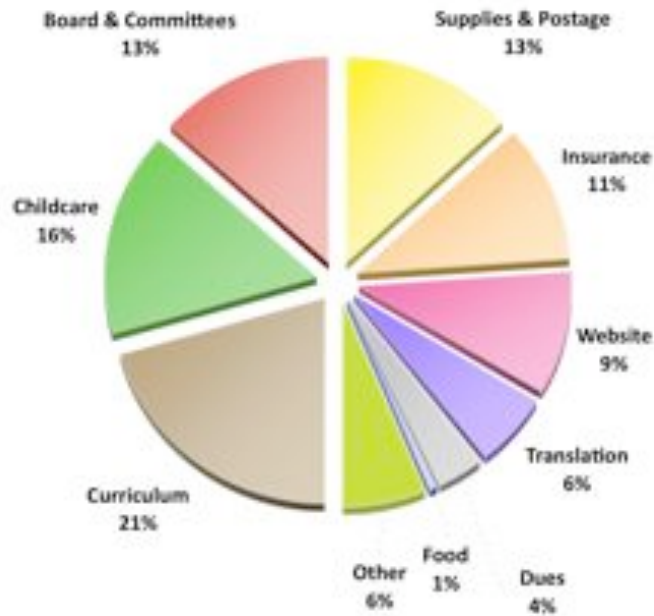
Net Assets—End of Year

 \$ 4,867

2009 Statement of Functional Expenses

	Program Services	Management & General	Fundraising	Total Expenses
Curriculum	\$ 1,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,130
Childcare	390	490	-	880
Board & Committees	-	369	368	737
Supplies & Postage	600	56	56	712
Insurance	-	610	-	610
Website	-	-	522	522
Translation	329	-	-	329
Dues	-	200	-	200
Food	32	-	-	32
Other	345	-	-	345
Total	\$ 2,826	\$ 1,725	\$ 946	\$ 5,497

2009 Categorization of Expenses



Donated Services

Nuestro Mundo, Inc. relies on numerous volunteers from the community to operate its programs. The value of these services is not reflected in the financial statements, as it does not meet the accounting criteria for recognition. NMI would like to gratefully acknowledge, however, the hard work and dedication of its many volunteers, without whom we could not achieve success.

2009 Nuestro Mundo, Inc. Board of Directors

OFFICE	Jan. 1 – July 1	July 1 – Dec. 31
PRESIDENT	Juan José Lopez Director of Bureau of Migrant, Refugee and Labor Services, Division of Employment/ Training	Juan José Lopez
VICE PRESIDENT	Judy Kujoth, CSW, NHA Director of RCAC Apex Management and Fiduciary Real Estate Development, Inc.	Judy Kujoth
TREASURER	Amelia Jones Direct Mail CUNA Mutual Group	Grant Foster
SECRETARY	Ana Salcido Teacher, NMCS UW-Madison Graduate Student	Ana Salcido
DIRECTORS	<p>Bryan Grau Social Studies Teacher LaFollette High School</p> <p>Debora Gil R. Casado Chair, Psychology Dept. Madison Memorial High School</p> <p>Maya Martinez Hart Teacher, NMCS</p> <p>Roseanne Drake Schmitz Office Manager, Co-Owner Mad Springs, Inc.</p> <p>Nancy Rodriguez, MSW Access Community Health Center</p> <p>Grant Foster Manager of Interpretive Services Dean Health Systems</p>	<p>Bryan Grau</p> <p>Adeliza Martinez Macleod Training Environment Specialist, Dean Health Systems</p> <p>Maya Martinez Hart</p> <p>Sharon Johnson Dept. of Workforce Development</p> <p>Sergio Gonzalez Student, UW-Madison</p> <p>Amelia Jones</p> <p>Peter Joyce</p> <p>Jackie Smith Bilingual Resource Teacher MMSD</p>
SLC PARENT REPRESENTATIVE	Peter Joyce Consultant U.S. Seed Potato Exports	Steve Rieder President Productive Properties, LLC



Nuestro Mundo Community School Principal, Javier Bolivar (center), is featured in *Madison Spectrum Magazine*.

What people are saying about Nuestro Mundo...

"In our increasingly diverse and ever changing communities, organizations like Nuestro Mundo, Inc. are integral in facilitating the sharing of culture and ensuring that there is greater understanding among us all. Your focus on education and connecting families with one another sets Nuestro Mundo apart in promoting multicultural opportunities."

— U.S. Senator Herb Kohl

"From its inception, Nuestro Mundo Community School has been a model for teaching our children the language skills they need in today's world and for collaboration between parents, teachers, school administration and the community. Our community will benefit from this program for generations."

— Ruth Roberts, Assistant Dean for Student & Academic Affairs,
University of Wisconsin Law School

"Nuestro Mundo, Inc. is at the vanguard of transforming educational opportunities and promoting equity in schools. Recognizing bilingualism as an asset, NMI is leading the Madison community in recognizing the richness of our linguistically diverse community."

— Martin Scanlan, Assistant Professor, Educational Policy and Leadership,
College of Education, Marquette University

"Nuestro Mundo is an innovative program that is blazing the trail toward an educational model that prepares our children to succeed in the global village."

— Jon Gramling, Publisher and Editor, Capital City Hues

"I am amazed about how far Nuestro Mundo has come from an idea developed as a way to address educational issues for Spanish speaking children to a school that provides a rigorous dual language immersion program and an important educational resource for the Madison Latino and non-Latino communities."

— Sandy Magaña, Ph.D., Associate Professor,
Director, Chicano Latino Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

"The foresight of those who had the vision of having a school that would preserve our linguistic and cultural heritage and share it with the larger community through a dual immersion program has blossomed into an amazing school that is a jewel and a model in our state."

— Salvador Carranza, PhD, Latino Education Council

All statements represent the opinion of these specific individuals and do not necessarily represent the views of the organizations for whom they are employed or with whom they are associated.

Building a Better World Together...Nuestro Mundo!



Nuestro Mundo, Inc.
P.O. Box 259936
Madison, WI 53725
www.nuestromundoinc.org