

September 10, 2022



Mission

Preserving, promoting, and celebrating the unique cultural heritage of Ybor City and supporting the Ybor City Museum State Park

NEWS BRIEF

In this issue, please enjoy the story by our curator, Arminda Mata, regarding Angel L. Cuesta's rise to success in the cigar industry and his contributions to our community. In addition to being a successful businessman, Mr. Cuesta was quite a philanthropist. This week marks the 204th birthday of Don Vicente Martinez-Ybor, founder of Ybor City. It's hard to believe that four years have passed since we celebrated his bicentennial with a special event at the Ybor City Museum State Park.

In this issue, we include an invitation to our 38th Annual Legacy Awards Brunch, honoring those who following the footsteps of the persons for whom the awards are named. Please join us at the Columbia Restaurant on October 2, as we present the Ybor, Pizzo, and Adela Gonzmart awards as well as a special Trustees' Award.

~Chantal Ruilova Hevia, President & CEO

Angel La Madrid Cuesta: The Man Behind the Business



Angel La Madrid Cuesta was born on December 21, 1858, in the small village of Colosía in Asturias, Spain. When he was just 10 years of age, Cuesta bid farewell to his family at the Port of Santander, Spain and sailed to Havana, Cuba to attend a boarding school. As a teenager, he began working in a cigar factory and learning all he could about the trade, which would benefit his future. Cuesta moved to New York in 1877 to work in a factory and later made his way to Atlanta to open his own business. Cuesta was very successful in business and became a naturalized citizen on December 23, 1886, a moment of great pride for him.

On November 21, 1888, Cuesta married the love of his life, Marie C. Binder, daughter of German immigrant parents who were also very successful in Atlanta. Mr. and Mrs. Cuesta would go on to have three children: Angel L. Cuesta, Jr., Karl B. Cuesta, and Carlotta Cuesta.

After great success in Atlanta, Cuesta moved to Tampa in 1892 to expand his business. In 1895, his partner, Peregrino Rey, joined him in Tampa and their new company, Cuesta, Rey & Co., became one of the most successful cigar factories in Tampa.

[Read More](#)

(Angel L. Cuesta, photo courtesy of The Tampa Times)



Cuesta-Rey Factory, 1912, One of West Tampa's most prosperous Cigar Factories in the early 20th Century



Cuesta Apartments, Beech St. & Howard Ave., 1925, adjacent to the Cuesta-Rey Factory



A.L. Cuesta School, 1936, was named in his honor
(Photos Courtesy of USF Special Collections)

Happy Birthday, Mr. Ybor!



Four years ago, on September 7, 2018, the Ybor City Museum Society celebrated Vicente Martinez-Ybor's bicentennial with an event in the garden of the Ybor City Museum State Park. Nearly 400 people helped commemorate the day with his great-grandson, Rafael Martinez-Ybor (pictured at right). We were treated to new perspectives about Don Vicente by iconic and noted historian, The Honorable E.J. Salcines. He noted Don Vicente's role in the founding of Ybor City and the cigar industry in Tampa, and the many ways Tampa grew from a fishing village to a vibrant and culturally diverse city because of the work of this serial entrepreneur.

This week, we took a moment to commemorate Don Vicente's 204th birthday. His great-grandson, Rafael, marked the day by having the statue of Don Vicente in Centro Ybor polished so that his image remains bright and shiny.

Feliz Cumpleaños, Don Vicente!

Legacy Awards Brunch



Please join the Ybor City Museum Society for the 38th Annual

Legacy Awards Brunch

Honoring

The Newman Family - Vicente Martinez-Ybor Award

John Rañon - Anthony "Tony" Pizzo Award

Mary Caltagirone (posthumous) - Adela Gonzmart Award

Deborah Guglielmo (posthumous) - Trustees' Award

Sunday, October 2, 2022, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Columbia Restaurant Ybor City - Siboney Room

Enjoy a cocktail reception, live music and an Ybor City-inspired brunch

Lisette Campos, Mistress of Ceremony

Eight-Time EMMY Award Winner

Program includes remarks from the Ybor, Pizzo and Gonzmart families.

Limited Seating. Please make your reservations today.

PLEASE RSVP BY September 23, 2022.

Send email or call 813.247.1434 for information.

Reserve Your Seats or Sponsorship

www.YborMuseum.org

All proceeds benefit the Ybor City Museum Society,
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID #59-2274494

**Reserve Your Seats or
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Sponsorship Benefits

COOKING CORNER



Chorizo Puffs

This week's recipe is a nod to Angel Cuesta's Asturias roots. One of the staples in Asturian cuisine is chorizo. Although Asturian cuisine typically chooses to cook chorizo in sidra or apple cider, this delicious recipe from the Columbia Restaurant is sure to please any sausage lover.

[Recipe](#)

(Photo is courtesy of Foodnetwork.com)

Our Community

Ybor City Saturday Market. Founded in the year 2000, this is the largest continually operating outdoor market in the Tampa Bay Area. The Market is in the center of Tampa's National Historic Landmark District and is one of the most popular shopping destinations for locally produced items unique to the Tampa Bay Area. Open every Saturday year-round, summer hours are 9 am - 1 pm (May - September). [Learn More](#)

Saturday Yoga in Ybor, every Saturday at 9:30am . Join others in the community for yoga in the Garden of the Ybor City Museum State Park. Classes are donation based and proceeds benefit the Park. [Learn more](#)

Ybor City Museum State Park

A visit to the Ybor City Museum State Park is a terrific way to share Tampa's cultural heritage with friends, family, and out-of-town guests.

You can also inquire about renting the Garden, a beautiful 10,000 sq. ft. outdoor space, by [clicking here](#). This unique venue creates its own ambience for your wedding, corporate meeting, or other special event.



New Hours of Operation : 9 am - 4 pm Wednesday-Sunday

The "Casita" is currently closed for maintenance.

Admission: \$4 per person, free for children 5 years and younger.

1818 E. 9th Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605, 813.247.6323



Membership



Join or renew your Ybor City Museum Society membership so that you can enjoy benefits and special events. Membership donations support mission-driven projects, including exhibits and educational programming.

Join or renew today!



NATIONAL
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FOR THE
HUMANITIES



Hillsborough
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The Ybor City Museum Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID No. 59-2274494. While we do not give tax advice, donations are tax deductible to the extent the law allows.

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