



Planting Flags on Division Street
Plantando banderas en la calle
Division

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AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR:

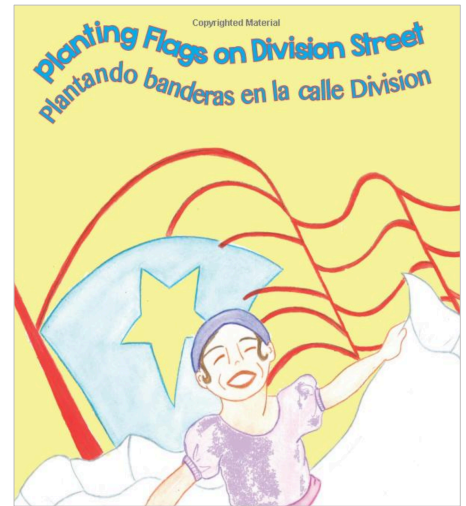
Raquel M. Ortiz

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Author is available for speaking engagements, book signings, book clubs, in-person and virtual interviews.

Dr. Raquel M. Ortiz is a social anthropologist, educator, activist, writer, and storyteller. She is also an Emmy-nominated film maker. She co-authored *Vicki and a Summer of Change! / ¡Vicki y un Verano de Cambio!* (2020) and authored *Broken Butterfly Wings / Alas de mariposa rotas* (2021), *When Julia Danced Bomba / Cuando Julia Bailaba Bomba* (2019), *Sofi Paints Her Dreams / Sofi pinta sus sueños* (2019), and *Sofi and the Magic, Musical Mural / Sofi y el mágico mural musical* (2015). Her work has garnered MOSAIC 5 Star Multicultural Book Recognition (2020); National Library Guild Golden Selection (2019); International Latino Book Awards (2016); Tejas Star Reading List (2016); and Educational Leadership Award – National Puerto Rican Day Parade (2016).

“It is more important than ever to tell stories that highlight the culture, family and struggle that bring us together as Puerto Ricans.”

~ Puerto Rican Cultural Center, Chicago

Karina loves dancing bomba. In the middle of the batey, the music of the barriles, the cuá and the maraca allows her to sing and share her story.

Today, Karina is desperately trying to get to a bombazo. Once she's on Paseo Boricua she can hear the Tan tun tun TAN of the bomba drums but, will she reach the community garden on time? Does Karina get to sing away her loneliness with the drums? Can Karina find the strength to believe that Abuelo Oscar will come home soon?

This story about an optimistic girl and a communal celebration invites readers to lose themselves in the rhythm of the barriles. It is an engaging exploration of the Afro-Puerto Rican tradition of bomba as well as an ode to public art and the people who build and celebrate community. Featuring Raquel Ortiz's lovely watercolor illustrations, this bilingual picture book introduces the topic of monuments and community to children ages 4 to 8. After reading this book children and adults will want to plant their own flags as they celebrate and help make community!

INSTAGRAM
@draquelmortiz

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draquelmortiz.com