Avenue of the Americas:
The History of Latin America in New York City
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Simón Bolívar
- One of the greatest generals of South America
- Hailed as “El Libertador” due to victories over Spanish colonial forces.
- Won independence for Bolivia (named after him), Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.
- Statue’s sculptor was Sally James Farnham (1869-1943).
- Statue dates to April 1921.
- Donated by the Venezuelan government.
- Located at the Artists’ Gate entrance to Central Park at 59th Street and Avenue of the Americas.

Juan Pablo Duarte
- National hero of Dominican Republic
- Organized a historical movement to defy Haitian domination.
- Helped organize a secret society “La Trinitaria”.
- Statue located on Avenue of the Americas between Canal St. & Grand St.
- Made by Italian artist Nicola Arrighini.
- Statue was placed by Juan Antonio Paulino.
- Paulino formed a group to make Duarte’s life and accomplishments better known and to start a campaign to build a monument.

Introduction
Sixth Avenue’s name was changed to Avenue of the Americas in 1945 by the City Council in order to honor the “Pan-American ideals and principles” of the nations of Latin America, and to encourage those countries to build consulates along the avenue. It was meant to bring glory to the street and promote trade with the Western Hemisphere.

Conclusion
Based on the research we have done, we have come to realize that there are no statues dedicated to a national hero from Puerto Rico. Puerto Ricans are the largest Hispanic group in New York City, so it came as a surprise to us that a national hero from Puerto Rico is not honored on the Avenue of the Americas.

José Martí
- Cuban national hero
- Organized the Cuban Revolutionary Party (1892).
- Killed in 1895 at the Battle of Dos Ríos.
- Statue sculpted by Anna Vaughn Hyatt Huntington.
- Given to the Cuban government.
- Located at the Artists’ Gate entrance to Central Park at 59th Street and Avenue of the Americas.

Benito Juárez
- “George Washington” of Mexico
- Defeated the French invasion in Mexico between 1866-1867.
- Established the foundation of the Mexican Republic.
- Preserved independence of Mexico.
- Statue was a gift from the state of Oaxaca in Mexico to NYC on Oct. 9th, 2004.
- Located in Bryant Park.

References
- http://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/central-park/monuments/982
- http://aveoftheamericas.org/

Map of Avenue of the Americas