MIGRATIONS: A STUDY OF ARTS & IDENTITY, is a multifaceted exhibition representing the collaboration of four departments of Queens College (CUNY): Drama, Theatre & Dance, Art, Economics, and Sociology, along with the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, and was organized to highlight A Year of Migration at the museum, which began in October, 2019, with the exhibition, Arte Cubano.

The exhibition’s organization relies on both the fluidity of the arts and the factual evidence of the social sciences. Forty-four photographs by Associate Professor Julen Esteban-Pretel of the Economics Department document the performance of works by four QC dance professors including former dance concert director, Richard Move, and performed by QC students in 2017 titled Migrations. Video projections of the performances, costumes, and design drawings, round out this section of the exhibition on the first floor of the museum.

Upstairs, the exhibition will include visual panels and texts providing evidence of how waves of migrations of people in and out of New York City have shaped the current landscape of not only dance and art, but also the demography of the city and its thriving economy. Maps will be created with the renowned platform “Social Explorer,” developed by Professor Andrew Beveridge, retired QC Professor of Sociology, while Professor Francesc Ortega of the Economics Department, will provide data on the surprising economic effects of immigration. Additionally, large-scale color photographs by Long Island City photographer Orestes Gonzalez, titled “Disruption Series,” documenting immigrant stories of survival, will be on view.

Finally, visitors will have the opportunity to engage with the exhibition on a more personal level and leave their mark by interacting with a large embroidery map of Queens loaned to us from the Queens Public Library and part of the Queens Memory Project (QMP) originally founded at QC. This project was initiated by the Self-Taught Genius Gallery of the American Folk Art Museum and Queens Memory perpetuates its evolution in the borough.

The exhibition will be open to Queens College students, faculty and staff only Monday-Thursday 10am-4pm and Friday 1pm-4pm. External visitors can view the exhibition online at www.gtmuseum.org. All programs in conjunction with the exhibition are free and will be virtual.