SECOND ANNUAL AMERICA’S FUTURE SUMMIT

REIMAGINING OPPORTUNITY IN A CHANGING NATION

AUGUST 16, 2016
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
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A special thanks to the Ricardo Salinas Foundation Scholarship Fund for providing scholarships to ensure the participation of Latinos at this and other Aspen Institute events
Welcome to the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society second annual America’s Future Summit: Reimagining Opportunity in a Changing Nation. As the United States undergoes one of the most rapid demographic transformations in history, fueled in large part by the growth of Latinos born in the United States, the well-being of the nation is deeply intertwined with the ability of American Latinos to advance economically and to integrate fully and meaningfully into all sectors of society.

The increasingly critical role that Latino Americans will play in our nation’s future means ensuring that Latinos have access to healthy communities, quality schools, good jobs, and safe environments, and that they can influence policies that facilitate positive contributions to society. While tangible progress has been made in many areas, more intentional collaboration is required between government, business, philanthropy and community based organizations for Latinos and other communities to realize the American Dream and to advance opportunity.

Opportunity is an ideal deeply imbedded in the American values of equity, fairness and mobility. Opportunity means that everyone has a fair chance to achieve his or her full potential. It means economic security, a voice in decisions that affect all of us, and a sense of responsibility toward each other. Upholding these values is grounded in the belief that our government, institutions and individuals have a responsibility to protect and expand opportunity for our and future generations.

The Aspen Institute Latinos and Society program is dedicated to increasing the understanding of and improving outcomes for the growing US Latino population in order to advance our nation’s wellbeing and prosperity. It is anchored in the core principles and activities of the Aspen Institute which are to facilitate meaningful dialogue across different sectors of society leading to more informed decision making, progress on vexing societal challenges, and to increase the numbers and diversity of values-based, action-oriented leaders.

In this spirit, we present today a series of artistic interventions, story-telling and conversations about opportunity with the goal of identifying solutions that can be implemented at the individual, organizational or systemic levels. We will highlight the promise of the Latino community and the power of connecting diverse communities, sectors and perspectives to advance access to opportunity for all.

We look forward to collaborating with you to make a difference in America’s Future and “Reimagine Opportunity in a Changing Nation”.

**MONICA LOZANO**
Chairman
Latinos and Society Program

**ABIGAIL GOLDEN-VÁZQUEZ**
Executive Director
Latinos and Society Program
At a time when the population and influence of Latinos is on the rise, society continues to experience growing disparity and the unequal distribution of opportunity. To address this, we must reimagine the way that we approach and conceive opportunity including how it can be fully realized. If we don’t, we risk leaving behind a generation of Latinos and limiting America’s future prosperity. Collaborations among business, government, philanthropy, community organizations, individuals, and movements are needed to foster a more equitable society. Transcending the siloes of our work, reengineering systems of power, and creating new rules for solving problems is the foundation from which we will discuss what opportunity is and how it can be maximized for all people.

AUGUST 16, 2016

8:30AM  Doors Open and Registration Begins
A continental breakfast will be served.

9:30AM  Welcoming Remarks
Monica Lozano, Chairman, Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program
Abigail Golden-Vázquez, Executive Director, Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program
Laysha Ward, Executive Vice President and Chief Corporate Social Responsibility Officer, Target

9:50AM  Opportunity at the Intersection
Sheila Lirio Marcelo, Founder, Chairwoman, and CEO, Care.com
Luz Vega-Marquis, President and CEO, Marguerite Casey Foundation
Alberto Retana, President and CEO, Community Coalition
The Honorable Ashley Swearengin, Mayor, City of Fresno
A Martínez, Co-host, Take Two, KPCC, Southern California Public Radio

Opportunity requires collaboration among many actors for its successful creation. This panel will explore a cross-section of approaches and players essential to envisioning new ways to nurture opportunity.

11:00AM  Voices: Youth Speak Volumes
Mikva Challenge Student
11:05 AM  In Conversation:  
Fr. Gregory J. Boyle, S.J., Founder and Executive Director, Homeboy Industries  
Jose Arrellano, Navigator, Homeboy Industries  
Erika Vargas, Trainee, Homeboy Industries  

The Power of Boundless Compassion  
Overcoming barriers to opportunity requires a vision in which all are deserving of and have equitable access to such opportunity. The conversation will share real life experiences of those who seized opportunity in a unique and powerful way.

11:35 AM  Voices: Insights from Joseph Sanberg, Co-Founder and Chair, Aspiration.com  
With experience as an entrepreneur in the public and private-sector and as an investor with a vision for impactful change through public policy, Joseph will share the importance of redefining the role that innovators play in society.

11:50 AM  Lunch Buffet Opens

12:20 PM  Lunch Discussions Begin  
During lunch, groups will engage in an interactive discussion on a pre-selected topic related to how opportunity can be reimagined today. Participants will connect with individuals from different backgrounds, sectors, and points of view. This purposeful networking opportunity is designed to foster collaboration, answer tough questions, and develop practical solutions.

1:30 PM  Artistic Perspective: Herbert Siguenza, Playwright, Actor, and Artist, Culture Clash

1:45 PM  Civic Action: Unlocking the Potential of a New Generation  
Julie Chavez Rodriguez, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Deputy Director of Public Engagement, The White House  
Jason N. Chavez, Indigenous Ambassador, Aspen Institute Center for Native American Youth  
Lashon Amado, National Coordinator of Community Action Teams, Opportunity Youth United  

Civic participation allows individuals and groups to exercise power and influence over their circumstances. During a recent Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program convening, these leaders developed innovative solutions
to addressing low rates of Latino Millennial civic participation. Today they will share solutions that encourage a more engaged generation.

2:15PM  Voices: Youth Speak Volumes
Mikva Challenge Student

2:20PM  In Conversation:
Donnel Baird, Founder and CEO, BlocPower
Carolina Huaranca Mendoza, Principal, Kapor Capital
Creating Opportunity through Social Entrepreneurship
The discussion will feature innovators dedicated to redefining how businesses can serve society by using holistic strategies for solving complex social and economic challenges.

2:50PM  Voices: Youth Speak Volumes
Mikva Challenge Student

2:55PM  In Conversation:
mark! Lopez, Executive Director, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
Juan Salgado, President and CEO, Instituto del Progreso Latino
Val Zavala, Vice President of News and Public Affairs, KCET Public Television
Grassroots, Community Organizing, and the Equity Landscape
Every strong movement requires a disrupter impassioned by a cause. This panel introduces two such change-makers who have dedicated their lives to creating opportunity for their communities. In conversation, they will share how they have mobilized vulnerable communities to find their voices, advocate for their interests, and demand change.

3:35PM  Edward James Olmos on Getting Out the Vote

3:50PM  In Conversation:
The Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Monica Lozano, Chairman, Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program
Los Angeles: A City of Opportunity
As one of the nation’s leading social innovators in the public sector, the mayor of America’s second largest city will discuss the challenges and solutions to ensuring equity in urban America.

4:20PM  Voices: Thoughts from Angela Glover Blackwell, President and CEO, PolicyLink
Through life experience and decades of work on issues of economic and social equity, Angela will share her reflection on the dynamics that drive or obstruct opportunity.

4:40PM  Opportunity Reimagined

4:45PM  Networking Reception
Esperanza Azteca Youth Orchestra
SPEAKER BIOS

LASHON AMADO, National Coordinator for Community Action Teams at Opportunity Youth United, graduated from a local YouthBuild program in Brockton, MA in 2008 and has remained a part of the movement ever since. He is now working on his Master’s in Nonprofit Management at Northeastern University (Boston, MA). His passion for social justice stems from his experience as a young man growing up in a low-income community and facing many challenges himself. Lashon feels obligated to give back and help drive change for disadvantaged populations who face similar obstacles and feel they do not have a platform to have their issues heard. His favorite quote is “It’s going to take the community to save the community!” As the National Coordinator for Community Action Teams for OYU, he works with young people, organizations, and community leaders in cities across the nation to help build the OYU movement through City Action Teams (CATs). The CATs will work to create a collective local agenda for creating pathways to reconnection, increase civic engagement, and mobilize their young people to be at the forefront of driving real change.

DONNEL BAIRD is the Founder and CEO of BlocPower, a startup that markets, finances and installs solar and energy efficiency technology to help houses of worship, non-profits, small businesses and multifamily projects to slash their energy costs. Donnel spent three years as a community organizer in Brooklyn and one year as a voter contact director for Obama For America. He spent three years managing a national campaign to leverage Dept. of Energy and labor pension energy efficiency municipal financing to create green construction jobs for out of work populations. He partnered with the Washington Interfaith Network to generate a $100m government investment in underserved communities in the District of Columbia. Donnel has a B.A. from Duke University, where he graduated with high distinction, and an M.B.A from Columbia Business School, where he was a Board of Overseers Fellow. BlocPower is backed by Kapor Capital and Andreesen Horowitz. Baird is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been awarded Echoing Green, Bluhm Helfand, and Poptech Fellowships, and is a perpetually exasperated fan of the New York Knicks.

JESUIT FATHER GREGORY J. BOYLE is Founder and Executive Director of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles. From 1986 to 1992, Father Boyle served as pastor of Dolores Mission Church in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of East LA, then the poorest Catholic parish in the city, located between two large public housing projects and the territories of numerous gangs. By 1988, he and parish and community members started what would eventually become Homeboy Industries,
now the largest and most successful gang-intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world. Homeboy trains and employs former gang members in a range of social enterprises, as well as provides critical services to over 10,000 people who walk through its doors every year seeking a better life. Father Boyle is the author of the 2010 New York Times-bestseller Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion. He is the subject of Academy Award winner Freida Lee Mock’s 2012 documentary, G-Dog. He has received the California Peace Prize and been inducted into the California Hall of Fame. In 2014, the White House named Father Boyle a Champion of Change. He was named 2016 Humanitarian of the Year award by the James Beard Foundation, the national culinary-arts organization.

**JASON N. CHAVEZ,** Generation Indigenous Ambassador of the Aspen Institute Center for Native American Youth, is a member of the Tohono O’odham Nation. He previously served as Tohono O’odham Nation Voter Outreach Coordinator for Pima County, Arizona. In this role, he worked to engage members of the nation in the election process at the local, state, and national level. Jason believes that the most important tool to drive change is the power to vote. He was able to put this belief into practice when, in cooperation with the tribal council and other entities on the reservation, he increased early voter participation by 300% in the 2014 General Election. Jason currently serves as a Generation Indigenous Ambassador working to promote Native American voter participation in the 2016 elections. He resides in Virginia where he has returned to school to complete his undergraduate education.

**DUNIA ELVIR** is the host of “Noticiero Telemundo 52 a las 5am & 6am.” With more than ten-years of a successful career at Telemundo 52, Elvir is one of the most recognized and respected Hispanic journalists in Los Angeles thanks to her objectivity and professionalism. Her human-interest stories are very well received by audiences and the industry, which has given her prestigious awards such as the Golden Mike for Best Investigative Reporting, and the 2008 Journalism Award of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) for Best Investigative Reporting. In 2004, she was selected by the National Association of Latina Leaders (NALL) as one of the 13 most outstanding Latinas in the United States. Some of her most relevant interviewees include Antonio Saca (former president of El Salvador), Ricardo Maduro (former President of Honduras), Manuel Zelaya (former president of Honduras), Vicente Fox (former president of Mexico), and Alvaro Colom (president of Guatemala), among others.
**ERIC GARCETTI** is the 42nd Mayor of Los Angeles. His “back to basics” agenda is focused on job creation and solving everyday problems for L.A. residents. Garcetti was elected four times by his peers to serve as President of the Los Angeles City Council from 2006 to 2012. From 2001 until taking office as Mayor, he served as the Councilmember representing the 13th District which includes Hollywood, Echo Park, Silver Lake, and Atwater Village – all of which were dramatically revitalized under Garcetti’s leadership. Garcetti was raised in the San Fernando Valley and earned his B.A. and M.A. from Columbia University. He studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford and the London School of Economics and taught at Occidental College and USC. A fourth generation Angeleno, he and his wife, Amy Elaine Wakeland, have a young daughter. He is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy reserve and is an avid jazz pianist and photographer.

**ANGELA GLOVER BLACKWELL**, President and CEO of PolicyLink, started PolicyLink in 1999 and continues to drive its mission of advancing economic and social equity. Under Angela’s leadership, PolicyLink has gained national prominence in the movement to use public policy to improve access and opportunity for all low-income people and communities of color, particularly in the areas of health, housing, transportation, and infrastructure. Prior to founding PolicyLink, Angela served as Senior VP at the Rockefeller Foundation. A lawyer by training, she gained national recognition as founder of the Oakland (CA) Urban Strategies Council. From 1977 to 1987, Angela was a partner at Public Advocates. Angela is the co-author of *Uncommon Common Ground: Race and America’s Future* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2010). In 2013, Angela and PolicyLink collaborated with the Center for American Progress to write and release *All In Nation: An America that Works for All*. Angela serves on numerous boards, including the Federal Reserve Board’s Community Advisory Council, the Children’s Defense Fund, and the W. Haywood Burns Institute.

**ABIGAIL GOLDEN-VÁZQUEZ**, Executive Director of the Latinos and Society Program, runs a policy program whose goal is to improve understanding of the growing Latino community and increase awareness of its critical importance to the future of the United States. For eight years prior she developed and managed the Institute’s geographical (Africa, Central America, India, Middle East, and China) and topical leadership initiatives (education and environment) that comprise the Aspen Global Leadership Network with the goal of stimulating a new generation of local leaders poised to play a greater role in the civic engage-
ment of their countries. As a Vice President at the Aspen Institute she is part of the executive management team working on strategy and representing the Institute publicly. Abigail holds a B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from Amherst College and an M.A. in International Relations and Latin American Studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. She is a member of the board of ConPRmetidos, and is a National Hispana Leadership Institute Executive Leadership and International Career Advancement Program Fellow.

**Carolina Huaranca Mendoza**, Principal at At Kapor Capital, focuses on identifying early stage investments, evaluating those investments, and partnering with entrepreneurs to grow their companies. She is interested in Future Work, People Operations Technology, and Education. Prior to becoming Principal, she was an Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the Kapor Center for Social Impact working on a tech platform for teacher professional development. Carolina began her career as a Mergers & Acquisitions investment banker at Citi but left to pursue opportunities in the technology and education sectors. She began her technology career in 2003 as a Sales & Marketing Manager at SchoolNet, which sold to Pearson for $230MM. In 2012, she founded Spriggle, a marketplace helping parents identify science and math inspired products for children. Carolina is a graduate of Cornell University. As a woman and first-generation Peruvian-American, Carolina is passionate about ensuring that people from all backgrounds know how to access capital. Based on her experience serving as the founding National Director of Girls Who Code Clubs, where she launched 186 Clubs serving approximately 2,000 girls, she is extremely passionate about working to close the gender gap in technology. Outside of work, Carolina mentors women entrepreneurs and low-income teens interested in pursuing careers in tech.

**Mark! Lopez**, Executive Director of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, comes from a family with a long history of activism. He was raised in the Madres del Este de Los Angeles Santa Isabel (Mothers of East LA Santa Isabel – MELASI), an organization co-founded by his grandparents, Juana Beatriz Gutierrez and Ricardo Gutierrez. This set his trajectory as a community activist. He has engaged in a wide array of student activism at UC Santa Cruz where he earned his B.A. in Environmental Studies, and taught university courses at UC Santa Cruz, Cal State Northridge, and UCLA Extension.
He spent 4 years organizing with Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) in South East LA, where he was the Youth Program Coordinator. mark! earned his M.A. from the Chicanx Studies Department at Cal State Northridge, where he completed his Masters thesis titled The Fire: Decolonizing “Environmental Justice.” After serving as Lead Organizer for East Yard Communities and Co-Director with EYCEJ Co-Founder Angelo Logan, mark! is now the Executive Director. He organizes in the area where he was born, raised and continues to live.

**Monica Lozano** is Chairman of the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program which is dedicated to increasing awareness of the vital role Hispanics will play in America’s long term prosperity. Lozano has an impressive record in Hispanic media that began in 1985 when she joined *La Opinión*, the country’s leading Spanish-language daily newspaper and was named its Publisher and CEO in 2004. In 2010 she became Chairman and CEO of the parent company and led the successful transition of the business into a multi-media content provider of information important to the Hispanic community. Monica stepped down from this role in January 2016. In addition to her work with the Aspen Institute, Lozano is Chair of the University of California Board of Regents and the Weingart Foundation, and serves on the board of the Rockefeller Foundation, Bank of America and Target.

**Sheila Lirio Marcelo** is Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Care.com. Inspired by challenges finding care for her children and ailing parents, Shelia founded Care.com in 2006. Today, the public company is the world’s largest online care destination with 19.6 million members in 16 countries. Sheila frequently speaks about women, technology and leadership, and has presented alongside President Obama (White House Summit on Working Families) and with global leaders at Davos. For her advocacy and work on behalf of families and women, Sheila has been named a “Top 10 Women Entrepreneur” by Fortune, received the HBS Alumni Achievement Award, was bestowed the Filipino Heritage Award from President Aquino, and received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Mount Holyoke. She is also a Henry Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute and a Young Global Leader for WEF. Sheila previously was at Upromise.com, TheLadders.com, and was an EIR at Matrix Partners. She graduated from Mount Holyoke and received her JD/MBA from Harvard.
**A Martínez**, Co-Host of Take Two, is an L.A. native who grew up in Koreatown, attended Daniel Murphy High School, and played baseball at L.A. City College before getting a journalism degree at Cal State Northridge. A is well known to sports-talk radio listeners in Los Angeles as host of 710 KSPN’s “In the Zone.” He’s done pre and post game shows for most of L.A.’s major professional and college sports teams, and is especially known as the long-time host of “Dodger Talk” and “Laker Line.”

**Alberto Retana** is President and CEO of Community Coalition. Alberto’s core values center on the notion that people, love and compassion – matched with organized power, strategy, and vision – have the potential to transform society. Alberto was introduced to organizing at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he graduated with a degree in Political Science. After UCLA, Alberto cut his teeth in community organizing at Community Coalition, a nonprofit organization based in South Los Angeles that engages and empowers residents to improve health, education, and public safety. From 2009 to 2011, Alberto worked for the Obama administration in the U.S. Department of Education as Director of Community Outreach. During his time in D.C., he organized the Department’s first National Youth Summit, and worked with thousands of community leaders across the country on turning around the nation’s “push-out” crisis. In 2011, Alberto returned to Community Coalition to lead its mass based civic engagement strategy to organize 40,000 African American and Latino voters in various campaigns from statewide initiatives to enrollment into Obamacare. After a rigorous national search, Alberto was selected to be President and CEO of Community Coalition effective July 1st, 2015. Alberto is the son of Mexican and Costa Rican immigrants who came to this country in 1962. The youngest of three, Alberto is the product of his family’s hard work and sacrifice.

**Julie Chavez Rodriguez**, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Deputy Director of Public Engagement, manages a team of associate directors who work with leaders in the LGBT, AAPI, Latino, Veterans, Youth, Education, Labor, and Progressive communities. Over the past four years, Julie has worked in the Office of Public Engagement, supporting efforts to reform the nation’s immigration system, improve services for veterans, and increase access to affordable, quality healthcare, among other issues. Julie has also worked in coordination with the White House’s National Security Council on efforts to normalize the United States’ relationship with Cuba, in addition to responding to
the migration of Central American children and their families. Prior to joining the White House, Julie served as the Director of Youth Employment at the Department of the Interior and the Deputy Press Secretary to former Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. Before joining the Administration, Julie served as the Director of Programs at the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation.

**Juan Salgado** has served as President and CEO of Instituto del Progresso Latino (Instituto) since 2001 where he led the organization through a period of national award winning recognition and historic growth spurred by a focus on creating partnerships, enhancing core competencies, leading innovation, providing quality services, and participating in targeted advocacy. Under his leadership, Instituto has established best-practice educational and workforce models resulting in significant economic mobility and wellbeing for Chicago families. Juan is a civic and economic leader in Chicago and also an influential voice in local and national settings for his work on the educational, political, and economic advancement of the Latina/o community. Juan appreciates the value of bridging the private and public sectors to promote upward mobility in the workforce and does so by partnering with the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council, World Business Chicago, City Colleges of Chicago and Chicago Public Schools to expand diversity and opportunity in the healthcare and manufacturing sectors. In recognition of this innovation and impact, Juan was selected to join the prestigious MacArthur Fellows class of 2015.

**Joseph Sanberg**, Co-Founder and Chair of Aspiration.com, is a public and private-sector entrepreneur harnessing the power of technology to improve quality of life for all. Aspiration.com is a consumer financial services company that was recently recognized as one of the World’s 50 Most Innovative Companies by Fast Company Magazine in honor of its progressive business model that empowers customers to choose their fees. Joseph is also a founding investor of Blue Apron, the leading meal-kit delivery service in the U.S. This past year, Joseph founded and chaired CalEITC4Me, a community organizing campaign to connect low-income families with California’s new Earned Income Tax Credit. Joseph was raised by his mother in a single parent household in Orange County. He earned his A.B. from Harvard University.
HERBERT SIGUENZA is playwright, actor, artist, and founding member of the performance group CULTURE CLASH. Along with Richard Montoya and Ric Salinas, Culture Clash is the most produced Latino theatre troupe in the United States. Founded in San Francisco in 1984, Culture Clash has performed on the stages of America’s top regional theaters. As a solo writer and performer Mr. Siguenza has produced Cantinflas! and A Weekend with Pablo Picasso currently on national tour. His latest plays Steal Heaven and El Henry (Best new play San Diego Critics Circle Award 2014) have been produced at the San Diego Repertory and La Jolla Playhouse. Mr. Siguenza is also an accomplished visual artist and has exhibited both nationally and internationally. He just received a three year Mellon Foundation grant to be playwright in residence at the San Diego Repertory Theatre.

ASHLEY SWARENGIN, Mayor of Fresno, California, took office in 2009 at one of the most challenging times in Fresno’s history. She has shown true leadership in working to return the City of Fresno to financial health while at the same time focusing on long-term transformational efforts such as downtown and community revitalization, homelessness and adult education. Because of her leadership, Mayor Swearengin was named one of California’s top 10 mayors by Capitol Weekly. She is a board member of the California League of Cities, chair of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, and at the national level, she serves on the leadership team of the U.S. Conference of Mayors as a member of its Executive Committee. Before being elected to office, Mayor Swearengin led a number of economic development programs in the Fresno area, including the Central Valley Business Incubator, Fresno State’s Office of Community and Economic Development, the Regional Jobs Initiative and the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. She was born in Texas, raised in Arkansas, moved to Fresno while she was in high school and has called Fresno home ever since. Mayor Swearengin holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Business Administration from Fresno State.

LUZ VEGA-MARQUIS is president and CEO of Marguerite Casey Foundation, where she oversees a $700 million endowment and $35 million grantmaking budget. She has positioned the foundation as a leader in movement building by shaping its grantmaking and communications to support a movement of poor and low-income families. The foundation invests in organizations that put families at the forefront of fighting poverty and working together across issues, race, regions and egos. In 2008, the foundation and its grantees launched Equal Voice for America’s
Families. The campaign mobilized more than 30,000 families and approximately 250 organizations and resulted in a multi-issue national family platform. In September 2014, the foundation launched Equal Voice Action, an independent organization that elevates the voices of low-income families through activism. Before becoming president in 2001, she was executive director of the Community Technology Foundation of California; vice president and COO at the National Economic Development and Law Center; and grants director at the James Irvine Foundation. She is founder of Hispanics in Philanthropy and a board member of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights, Philanthropy Northwest and The Workers’ Lab. She received a master’s degree in Latin American Studies from Stanford University.

Laysha Ward is Executive Vice President and Chief Corporate Social Responsibility Officer for Target and a member of the company’s senior leadership team. She leads Target’s commitment to integrate corporate citizenship into its daily operations with direct responsibility for sustainability, diversity and inclusion, service and philanthropy, and other key reputational strategies. Ms. Ward is a member of the Executive Leadership Council; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; The Links, an international woman’s service organization; and the Advisory Board for the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program. She also sits on the for-profit board of directors for Denny’s Corporation. Ms. Ward received her bachelor’s degree in journalism from Indiana University and a master’s degree in social services administration with an emphasis in management and public policy from the University of Chicago.

Val Zavala is Vice President of News and Public Affairs at KCET, the nation’s largest independent public television station. Ms. Zavala is the anchor and executive producer of KCET’s signature weekly news magazine, SoCal Connected, which has won a Peabody and Columbia-du-Pont Award for investigative reporting. For seven years she anchored the nightly newsmagazine Life & Times. Since joining KCET in 1987 she has won 16 L.A. Emmy awards. Ms. Zavala has been honored by numerous organizations including the California Chicano News Media Association, and Hispanic Americans for Fairness in Media, and as Woman of the Year benefiting the California Science Center. Ms. Zavala was a John S. Knight Journalism fellow at Stanford University (1993). She received her M.A. in journalism from American University and B.A. from Yale University.
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A very special note of gratitude to Haili Lewis, Program Assistant, and Sarah Alvarez, Program Associate, without whom none of this would be possible.
The Aspen Institute’s Latinos and Society Program aims to create broad awareness of the growth and importance of the Latino community to the future success of the United States.

We do this by bringing together Latino and non-Latino communities influencers and decision-makers to find areas of common ground that advance issues and policies of importance to Latinos and the country as a whole; and by developing the leadership capacity of Latinos to participate fully in all levels of society.

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, DC. Its mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and to provide a nonpartisan venue for dealing with critical issues. The Institute has campuses in Aspen, Colorado, and on the Wye River on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. It also maintains offices in New York City and has an international network of partners.

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