

The New Face of America: The Latina Linchpin

September 13, 2018 | 2:30pm | The Aspen Institute

Agenda

2:30 PM Welcome Remarks

Abigail Golden-Vazquez, Vice President and Executive Director, Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program @abbeyny @aspenslatinos

Yvette Ruiz, Vice President, Office of Nonprofit Engagement, JPMorgan Chase & Co. @yvetteeden

2:40 PM New Faces of America: Latinas Forging Their Own paths in Work, Life, Family, and Career

Ariana A. Curtis, PhD, Curator of Latinx Studies, National Museum of African American History and Culture @ArianaCurtis413

Hon. Delia Garcia, CEO, ReflectUS @DeliasList

Abigail Golden-Vazquez, Vice President and Executive Director, Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program @abbeyny @aspenslatinos

Carla Vernón, President, Natural & Organic Operating Unit, General Mills @carlainspired

3:25 PM Latina Entrepreneurs: Driving New Business Creation, Overcoming Barriers to Growth

Mari Bonnemaïson-Moore, President, Bonnemaïson Inc. @bonnemaïsoninc

Melissa L. Bradley, Manager, Project 500 @bradleyml

Monika Mantilla, CEO, Altura Capita and Managing Partner, Small Business Community Capital @alturacap

Natalia Oberti Noguera, Founder & CEO, Pipeline Angels and Creator & Host, Pitch Makeover @nakisnakis

4:00 PM Closing Reception

Remarks from **Dan Porterfield**, President and CEO, The Aspen Institute



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Bios



Mari Bonnemaïson's career started as an on-air investigative reporter for two of the highest-rated socio-political television programs in Peru. She attained exclusive interviews with subjects from The Shining Path terrorist movement to the US Air Force fighter pilots. In the United States, Mari has produced/directed documentaries and a short film. A few years back, Bonnemaïson was awarded the 8th position out of 90 companies to enter the Accelerator Program of the Maryland Small Business Development Center. Bonnemaïson is a Minority Woman-Owned Business for the past 18 years. Mari's transition from working in front of the camera to working behind the camera has giving her the optimal insight to working the industry. Bonnemaïson pursues professionally, 'a life of significance'. Aiming for its work to make profit as well as to make a difference on the lives of others. Mari is passionate about giving back to the community and her team's continual self-development. She has served on the Boards of Directors for WIFV, The Art Museum at The OAS, volunteers as a judge at the Emmy's, and participates in a self-development group. She graduated at The University Maryland. Bonnemaïson has been the recipient of various awards such as Emmy's, Telly's and Sundance.



Melissa L. Bradley is Managing Director of Project 500 – accelerating new majority entrepreneurs from high potential to high growth. She is also an adjunct professor at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University where she teaches impact investing, social entrepreneurship, P2P economies and innovation. Melissa is Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Sidecar Social Finance, a social impact agency that provides impact investing advisory and capital services to individuals, institutions, and social enterprises. She is also a Nonresident Senior Fellow in the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution and Co-Chair of the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (NACIE) appointed by Secretary Penny Pritzker from the Department of Commerce. Melissa currently serves as a Board Member for The Reinvestment Fund and AEO, as well as an advisor to Wallet AI and the Center for the Advancement of Social Enterprise (CASE) at Duke University. She is a Founding Advisor to the Dell Center for Entrepreneurs as well as a Senator with the Board of Governors at Georgetown University. She is also Founder and Former Chair of the Georgetown Entrepreneurship Alliance; Founding Member, The Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership; and Founding Advisor to LGBTQ Center at Georgetown University.



Dr. Ariana A. Curtis is the first curator of Latinx Studies at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. She is responsible for collection and interpretation related to: U.S. Latinx, Afro-Latinx, African American & Latinx, African Diaspora, and African Americanness in Latin America. Previously, Ariana was curator of Latinx Studies at the Anacostia Community Museum (ACM). In addition to conducting Latinx-centered public programming at ACM, she curated two bilingual exhibitions: Gateways/Portales, which received honorable mention in the 2017 Smithsonian Excellence in Exhibition Awards, and Bridging the Americas. She also organized Revisiting Our Black Mosaic, a full day symposium about race and immigration in Washington, D.C. Ariana has appeared in national media outlets including LatinoUSA, The Root, and USA Today. She holds a doctorate in Anthropology with a concentration in race, gender, and social justice from American University, an MA in Public Anthropology from American University and a BA from Duke University.



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Delia Garcia currently serves as CEO of ReflectUS and the National Chair of the BHCC BAC. Previous to these roles, Delia was National Executive Director of the National Migrant Seasonal Head Start Association in Washington, DC. She was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives in 2004, where she became the first Latina woman and, at the age of 27, the youngest female to serve in the Kansas Legislature. During her six-year tenure, she served with a strong track record of championing advances in education, small business, & health access. Garcia is a national leader on small business, civic engagement, and the process of running for elected office. Garcia has received numerous recognitions for her leadership & service, including a permanent exhibition in the State of KS Historical Museum as the first Latina elected in Kansas, the MALDEF Matt Garcia National Public Service Award, and the National Latina Trailblazer in Government awarded by the USHCC. In addition to her extensive political experience, Delia has a wealth of knowledge in small business management, in her family's business, Connie's Mexico Café, Kansas' Oldest Family Owned Mexican Restaurant since 1963.



Abigail Golden-Vázquez, as Executive Director of the Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program, runs a policy program whose goal is to improve understanding of the growing Latino community and its critical importance to the future of the United States. For 8 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 engagement 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 joined the Aspen Institute from the German Marshall Fund (GMF) in 2006 where she was a senior manager and director of External Relations responsible for partnership development, congressional relations, and public outreach. 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 National Hispana Leadership Institute Executive Leadership Fellow and an International Career Advancement Program Fellow. She has attended leadership training at the Center for Creative Leadership and at Harvard Kennedy School.



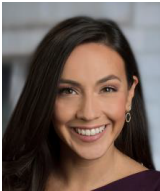
Monika Mantilla has dedicated the last 20 years of her life to her passion: bringing capital and expanding opportunity for promising entrepreneurs. Altura Capital is an investment management firm that provides institutional investors the opportunity to invest and build value with high performing diverse investment firms, businesses and management teams. Altura assists in the selection and assemblage of large and small businesses partnerships, management teams and capital to achieve such goals. Small Business Community Capital, SBCC is an SBIC Impact fund that provides primarily debt capital to small and mid-sized companies with EBITDA between \$1 and \$15 million, with a focus on women and minority owned firms and entrepreneurs located in LMI communities. SBCC and Altura are playing a pivotal role in developing an ecosystem of entrepreneurs, investors, advisors and corporations coming together to harness opportunities in the growing Hispanic and WMBE markets. Monika and the firms she leads have won numerous awards and recognitions for their work building financial capacity in minority and underserved communities. In multiple years Latino Leaders Magazine has recognized her as one of the 101 Most Influential Leaders in Hispanic U.S. and one of the Top 15 Latinos in Finance.



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Dubbed "The Coach" by Marie Claire, **Natalia Oberti Noguera** (aka Ms. Oberti Noguera) is Founder & CEO of Pipeline Angels. Pipeline Angels is changing the face of angel investing and creating capital for women and non-binary femme social entrepreneurs. Natalia is also Creator & Host of Pitch Makeover, a podcast on pitching and investing that spotlights startups launched by women, non-binary people, and men of color. She holds a BA in Comparative Literature & Economics from Yale, as well as an MA in Organizational Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University. Natalia serves on the boards of Walker's Legacy, Women 2.0, and iRelaunch. Inc. Magazine selected Natalia as one of "The Most Impressive Women Entrepreneurs of 2016," Latina.com included her in their list of "25 Latinas Who Shine in Tech," and Women's eNews recognized her as one of 21 Leaders for the 21st Century for 2012. StartOut, a network of LGBTQ entrepreneurs, honored Natalia with the 2017 Nixon Peabody Trailblazer Award, "recognizing an entrepreneur whose pioneering approach or vision has set a trend for an entire industry."



Yvette E. Ruiz joined JPMorgan Chase in 2014 and serves as a Vice President for the Office of Nonprofit Engagement, supporting Texas, Arizona, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Colorado. Primarily supporting the needs of low-income communities, Yvette's work with community thought leaders and nonprofit organizations advances policies and programs that are key to driving inclusive economic growth and economic prosperity. Yvette has shaped JPMorgan Chase's commitment to building the capacity of nonprofits through a combination of direct programming, thought leadership and collaboration with local partners. Prior to this role, Yvette managed a global community relations program at Austin-based National Instruments. Yvette was born in San Juan, Texas and raised in the Rio Grande Valley. After moving to Austin in 2004 to attend the University of Texas at Austin, she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Relations with a minor in Business. Yvette also holds a professional certificate in Corporate Community Involvement from the Boston College Carroll School of Management. Yvette lives in Austin, Texas with her husband, Ken.



As President of the General Mills Natural & Organic Operating Unit, **Carla Vernón** leads both financial, strategic and environmental stewardship strategy for the largest portfolio of Natural and Organic brands in General Mills. The portfolio includes Annie's, Cascadian Farm, Muir Glen, EPIC, and Immaculate Baking. As a member of the North American Leadership team, Carla also provides long-term vision and strategic leadership to drive double-digit growth and environmental sustainability for the entire \$1B General Mills portfolio of Natural and Organic foods. Prior to this role, Carla led the business strategy for a \$1.5 Billion portfolio of snack brands including Nature Valley and Larabar. Outside of General Mills, Carla recently served on the national Board of Directors for the Make-a-Wish Foundation and the Advisory Board for the Wisconsin School of Business's Center for Brand and Product Management. Carla is a Henry Crown Fellow at the Aspen Institute, a member of The Alumni Society (for Latino senior leaders). Prior to joining General Mills, Carla worked for U.S. Senator Carol Moseley-Braun and The Nature Conservancy. Carla received her BA in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Princeton University and an MBA from the University of Texas, Austin (as a Consortium Fellow).



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The Aspen Institute founded the Latinos and Society Program in order to bring Latinos and non-Latinos together to learn about their shared future and jointly explore solutions to the challenges of our times, particularly in the areas of civic participation, economic advancement and educational opportunity. It connects Latino leaders to Aspen Institute programs and networks, fostering collaborations that contribute to a more informed and inclusive vision of America.

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