

Illustrious Awards - 2018



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Illustrious Awards Recipients - Education

Latinos have laid the groundwork for many successful programs and initiatives through the contemporary history of Education.

Arturo Islas, Jr., born in 1938 in El Paso, Texas, was a professor of English and a novelist, writing about the experience of Chicano cultural duality.

Jaime Alfonso Escalante Gutierrez, born in December 1930, was a Bolivian educator known for teaching students calculus from 1974 to 1991 at Garfield High School, East Los Angeles, California. Escalante was the subject of the 1988 film *Stand and Deliver*, in which he is portrayed by Edward James Olmos.

Dr. Robert Davila, born in July 1932, served as the ninth president of Gallaudet University, the world's only university in which all programs and services are specifically designed to accommodate deaf and hard of hearing students.

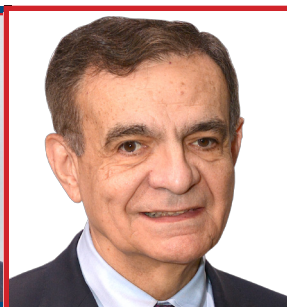
Frank Bonilla, Ph.D., born in 1925 in NYC, pioneered Puerto Rican and Latino studies in US academia.



Alberto Correa
Ph.D.



David Badillo
Ph.D.



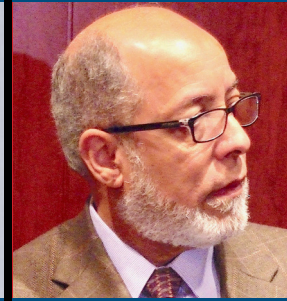
Antonio Pérez
Ph.D.



Dan-el Padilla
Ph.D.



Ginetta Candelario
Ph.D.



Rafael Nuñez-Cedeño, Ph.D.



María Díaz



Louis Hernández
Ed.D.



Angélica Infante
MA



Vasthi Reyes
Acosta, Ed.D.



Víctor Capellan
MA

Illustrious Awards - 2018



CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Antonio Pérez

PRESIDENT OF
BOROUGH OF **MANHATTAN** COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2018 Illustrious Leadership Award

INSTITUTE FOR LATINO STUDIES



Illustrious Awards in Higher Education

Higher Education Administration & Leadership



Antonio Pérez, Ph.D. was appointed President of Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC/CUNY) in 1995. The college served 16,300 students at that time, and has grown to have the college largest enrollment in The City University of New York, serving more than 27,000 students.

A visionary, high-energy leader, President Pérez has not only led the college's expansion but guided the BMCC community through the aftermath of September 11, 2001. BMCC is the only college in United States history to have lost a campus building to a terrorist attack. BMCC's Fiterman Hall was destroyed when World Trade 7, across the street, collapsed and fell against it. That building was closed, the College's main campus building became a staging area for 2,000 rescue workers and through President Pérez's determined advocacy, BMCC reopened in less than three weeks.

For the next ten years, President Pérez worked to procure funding to raze and rebuild Fiterman Hall. He was a key player in creating a partnership between the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, the Office of NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg, The City University of New York, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the NYS Department of Labor, the NYC Department of Transportation and others. The result was the opening of a new Fiterman Hall in August 2012.

President Pérez has spoken and written widely on leadership during a crisis and issues affecting community college students. He has led the development of programs at BMCC that increase the participation of women and low-income students in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields, as well as programs that prepare students to enter high-demand fields such as nursing and allied health. He has been a driving force behind BMCC's growing Study Abroad program. Under his leadership, the number of associate degree programs at BMCC has doubled, growing from 20 to 47, as of Fall 2017.

President Pérez has also developed a network of partnerships in the NYC business community, strengthening programs in the BMCC Center for Continuing Education and Workforce Development. Serving more 11,000 students, the Center offers nationally recognized certifications in information technology, allied health and other in-demand fields, as well as stackable credits that transfer into degree programs at BMCC.

President Pérez has maintained a deep personal commitment to community service. He has served on boards including those of the Ralph Lauren Cancer Center, *Business Alliance for Downtown New York*, *National Museum of the American Indian and Lower Manhattan Cultural Council*. President Pérez is Vice President of the Greater New York Councils of Boy Scouts of America and was recognized by *Crain's New York* as one of the City's top 100 minority business leaders.

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Honoring Distinguished Latinos

Congratulations

-TO-

THE INSTITUTE FOR LATINO STUDIES' 2018 ILLUSTRIOUS AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Including

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San Juan Legislator

Alberto Correa, Ph.D.
Universidad Interamericana

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Illustrious Award Recipient - Higher Education

Mathematics

Alberto Correa, Ph.D., was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and settled in Puerto Rico, where he raised a family and obtained an education. Due to his blackness, he was discriminated against at every step of the way, as he pursued a college education. He eventually graduated with a Ph.D. in Mathematics and gained fame for his teaching skills and relentless commitment to the advancement of students of all ages. His lectures on mathematics focus on leadership development, applying mathematical concepts.

Dr. Alberto Correa received a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from World University of Puerto Rico, Recinto de Hato Rey in 1978; a Master's Degree in Education-Mathematics from Universidad de Puerto Rico in 1982; and a Doctorate in Education-Mathematics from Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico in 1999.

Among the many accolades and recognition, he has received, Dr. Correa's Doctoral Thesis was incorporated to the *Colección Puertorriqueña de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras (2000)*;

He is currently a Professor at *Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico*. He has lectured at various universities in Spain and mainland USA. He is educational advisor to Asociación de Profesionales y Técnicos Dominicanos en España (ASOPROTEC), the National Dominican American Council, and the Dominican American National Roundtable (DANR).



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Illustrious Award Recipient - Higher Education



President José Luís Cruz and the Faculty, Students, and Staff of Lehman College
Extend Best Wishes to

THE INSTITUTE FOR LATINO STUDIES

on its

Illustrious Awards

III

Honoring Distinguished Latinos

with Special Congratulations to

David A. Badillo

Lehman Faculty & Chair of the Latin American and Latino Studies Department

Recipient of the

Illustrious Award in Higher Education - Latino Research

for his outstanding contribution to Latino Studies



Illustrious Award Recipient - Higher Education

Latino Research



David A. Badillo, Ph.D., is the son of the late Herman Badillo, the pioneering politician who played a key role in the New York political establishment and the Puerto Rican and Latino communities. A historian and educator, Dr. David Badillo is Chair of the Latin American and Latino Studies Department at Lehman College (CUNY).

His parents imbued him with an intellectual curiosity with which he pursued higher education, partly as a means of exploring his Latino ancestry. This was especially the case after he became interested in the beauty and grandeur of South America while traveling there in the mid-1970s. Thereafter, he developed and fulfilled professional goals through research and the writing of Latino history.

Professor Badillo earned his BA from the University of California at Berkeley and his doctorate in history from the City University of New York. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford University and has published extensively, authoring a book entitled *Latinos and the New Immigrant Church* (Johns Hopkins University Press) and numerous scholarly articles on various aspects of Latino history which have appeared in the *Journal of Urban History*, the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, and *New York History* and other venues.

His current book project is a comparative history of the Latino civil rights movement focusing on educational litigation, legal advocacy of immigrant rights, and struggles for equal employment opportunities.

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Candelario

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Latino Identity Scholarship

Ginnetta Candelario, Ph.D.,

is a Professor of Sociology and of Latin American & Latino/a Studies at Smith College. Of Dominican/Italian descent, Professor Candelario credits her mother with being the major influence in her life.

In addition to being a professor of sociology, Dr. Candelario is a faculty affiliate of the Latin American and Latina/o Studies Program, the Study of Women and Gender Program, and the Community Engagement and Social Change Concentration.

Candelario's research interests include Dominican history and society, with a focus on national identity formation and women's history; Blackness in the Americas; Latin American, Caribbean and Latina feminisms; and Latino communities, particularly Cuban, Dominican and Puerto Rican.

Her first book, *Black behind the ears: Dominican Racial Identity from Museums to Beauty Shops*, was published by Duke University Press in 2007 and received the 2009 Best Book Award from the Latino Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association and the 2008 Best Book Award from the New England Council of Latin American Studies.

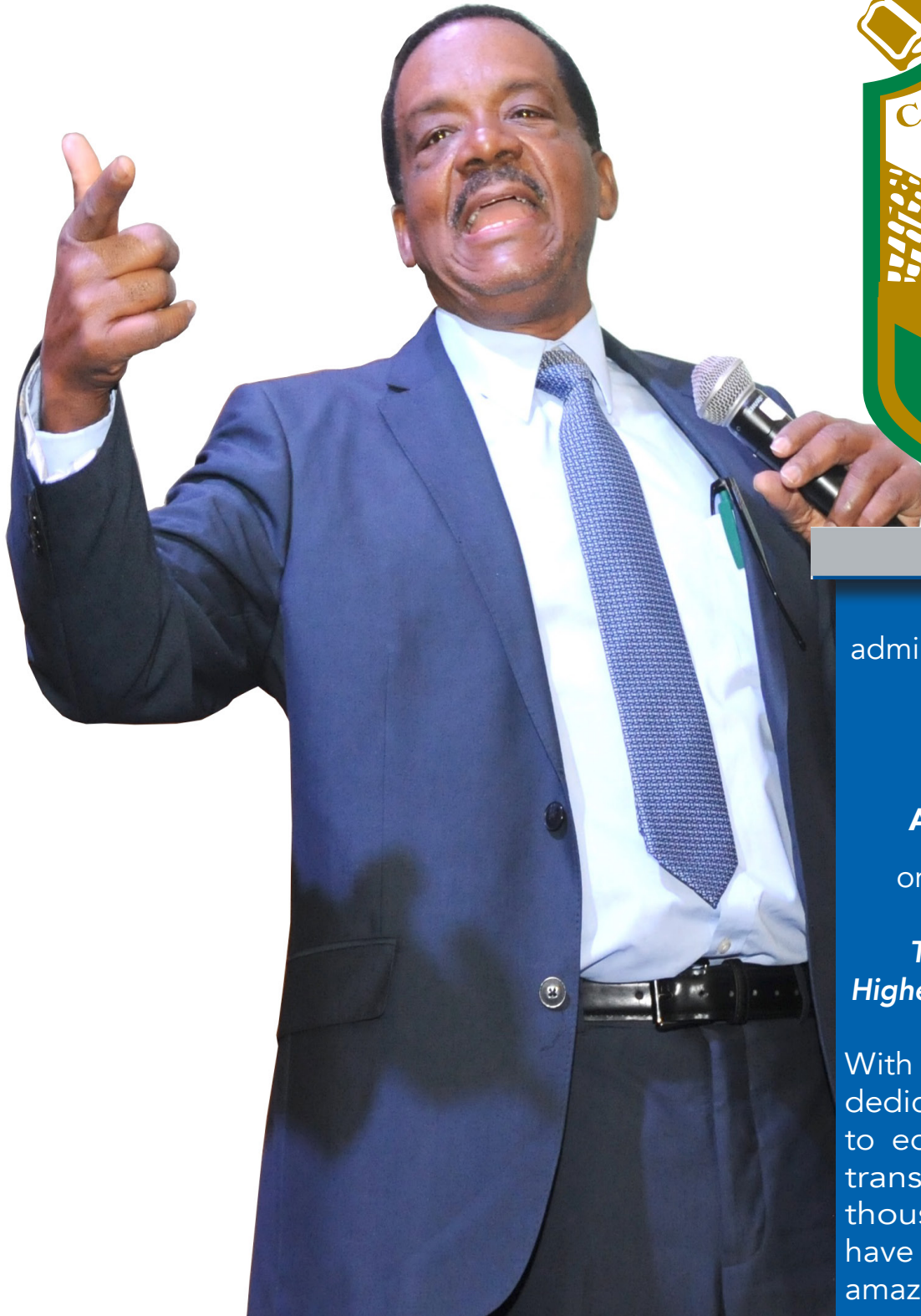
Candelario's work has also appeared in interdisciplinary journals such as *Latino Studies*, *West Indian Guide*, *Small Axe*, *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism*, *Phoebe*, and in Latino/a studies anthologies, among others.

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Illustrious Award Recipient - Higher Education

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Honoring Distinguished Latinos



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CONGRATULATE

Alberto Correa, Ph.D.

on being the recipient of

*The Illustrious Award in
Higher Education - Mathematics.*

With his teaching vocation, dedication and commitment to education, Dr. Correa has transformed the lives of thousands of students, who have gone on in life to have amazing careers.

Illustrious Award Recipient - Higher Education

Classical Studies Scholarship

Dan-el Padilla, Ph.D.,

was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Dan-el Padilla Peralta grew up undocumented and temporarily homeless in New York City. With the support and encouragement of his high school teachers, he studied Classics at Princeton University, where he graduated as the salutatorian of his class. He continued his studies at the University of Oxford (MPhil in Greek and Roman History) and Stanford University (PhD in Classics). After two years at Columbia University's Society of Fellows, Dan-el returned to Princeton as an assistant professor in the Classics Department and is affiliated with the university's Program in Latino Studies.

His 2015 memoir *Undocumented: A Dominican Boy's Odyssey from Homeless Shelter to Ivy League* (Penguin) received an Alex Award from the American Library Association; more recently he has penned pieces for the *Guardian*, *Matter*, *Vox*, and *the New York Times*.

He is now plugging away at a second book on the religious worlds of the Roman Republic (under contract with Princeton University Press); other projects in gestation include a co-edited volume on appropriation in Roman culture, two article-length explorations of classical reception in the 19th and 20th-century Hispanophone Caribbean, and a study of forms of citizenship ancient and modern.

A firm believer in the importance of humanistic learning to the promotion of social justice, Dan-el has taught in Columbia's Justice-in-Education Initiative and Freedom and Citizenship Seminar. He also sits on the editorial board of the public-facing Classics journal *Eidolon*, to which he has contributed articles ranging from Greco-Roman reception in hip-hop to the interplay between ancient xenophobia and modern anti-immigrant politics.



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CLENNE F. SCOTLAND.....GENERAL COUNSEL

TONY PEREZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Illustrious Award Recipient - Higher Education

Linguistics Research

Rafael Núñez Cedeño, Ph.D., is emeritus professor of Hispanic linguistics in the Department of Hispanic & Italian Studies, University of Illinois-Chicago. He has authored or coauthored several books and has published in anthologies, encyclopedias, newspapers, magazines, and linguistic journals.

Núñez-Cedeño is a researcher who specializes in linguistics, with focused interest in Spanish phonology, morphology, dialectology, and the development of Spanish phonology.

He was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic to José Antonio Núñez y María Altagracia Cedeño. He attended high school at Academia Militar Batalla de Las Carreras, where he was granted a scholarship to study aviation in Lackland, Texas. In 1965, during the US invasion of the Dominican Republic, Núñez joined the resistance forces under Commander Caamaño Deñó, as a member of Servicio de Inteligencia Militar Revolucionario.

Núñez-Cedeño migrated to the United States, New York City in late 1965, and began his career as a linguist, philosopher and educator. He attained a Bachelor's Degree in Education and Hispanic Literature, as well as a Master's Degree in Linguistics from The City University of New York; and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota.

He is co-founder and co-editor of *Probus: International Journal of Romance Linguistics*, published in Berlín, Germany, and is associate editor of *Signos Lingüísticos*, of México, *Miríada Hispánica*, of Spain, *Modern Language Journal*, of the United States, and *País Cultural*, of the Dominican Republic. Núñez-Cedeño has been a guest lecturer at University of Minnesota-Duluth, Indiana University, University of New Hampshire, Boston University, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Universidad de Los Andes y Universidad de Maracaibo de Venezuela, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana of México, Colegio de México, Colegio de Michoacán, México y Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra.

His community affiliations include founding and presiding the Dominican American Midwest Association (DAMA), and being a member of the Dominican American National Roundtable and Chicago Cultural Alliance.



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Award Recipient - Elementary Education

Teaching



*M*aría Díaz is a dedicated educator and education activist whose priority is the well-being and development of students in Perth Amboy, NJ. As an immigrant from the Dominican Republic, obstacles such as discrimination, did not deter her from her quest to contribute to the educational growth and development of children.

She's vowed by her character and principles to never surrender to challenges. Recently, her daughter was diagnosed with cancer, but rather than crumbling to fate, she stood up and motivated her daughter, family and community to seek a cure, and fight for life itself, as she does not know how to surrender.

She is indeed an illustrious educator, an honorable public servant and a woman of character, who is making the difference in the lives of hundreds of students in Perth Amboy, NJ and beyond.

The Illustrious Awards

Award Recipient - Elementary Education

Counseling



Louis Hernández, Ed.D. was born in New York City and raised in a Puerto Rican/Mexican household. He tells of facing discrimination in New York for being Puerto Rican, and in Puerto Rico for being a New Yorker.

An existential purpose enabled him to surmount obstacles encountered during his adolescent years. This became the foundation for his multifaceted professional services to the youth and families of his community. Dr. Hernandez had the fortune of working as a bilingual, special education teacher for 13 years, and later as a guidance counselor for 22 years in El Barrio, NY his place of birth and upbringing.

He majored in Puerto Rican Studies in undergraduate school, and received two Master's degrees, one in Bilingual Special Education from Fordham University and a second in Educational Counseling from Queens College. He further pursued a post graduate degree in Marriage and Family Counseling with a specialization in Alcoholism; and completed his doctoral dissertation as a practitioner/researcher.

His significant contributions include the implementation and facilitation of therapeutically diverse programs that have impacted the lives of many, such as: self-contained bicycle touring for at-risk youth; after school rock climbing; service projects; group counseling with adolescents affected by addiction; sobriety maintenance groups; and self-management through martial arts.

Since his official retirement, Louis has been an adjunct professor at Hunter College's Counseling Department. He and his wife, Yolanda, reside in Upstate NY and spend winters in Puerto Rico.

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Award Recipient Elementary Education

Administration



Vasthi Reyes Acosta, Ed.D. is the Executive Director of Amber Charter School. Previously, she was an assistant principal, consultant and teacher for the New York City Department of Education, and a college professor at Hostos Community College.

Dr. Acosta is a graduate of Columbia University's Teachers College where she was awarded both a Doctor of Education and Master of Arts degrees. She also holds a Master of Science degree from Bank Street College of Education.

Dr. Acosta has presented scholarly work at national and state-wide conferences. She has published several articles, the two most recent, a book review of the book *Language, Space and Power: A Critical Look at Bilingual Education* and a commentary titled, *Stung by Buzz Words*.

As an author, her novella *Gifts of the Magi* is published in the anthology *A Big Apple Christmas*. She is currently completing a trilogy titled, *Mangos and Apple Pie*, which is a contemporary retelling of the story of Ruth with Latino characters. She is also a columnist for *El Diario/La Prensa* where her weekly column, "La Maestra del Pueblo" appears every Monday.

She is the wife of Appellate Justice Rolando T. Acosta, and mother to son, Lucas, daughter Zila, and son-in-law Brian.

The Illustrious Awards

Award Recipient - Elementary Education

Administration

Angélica Infante-Green

is an educator dedicated to the educational advancement of children. Her contributions include several initiatives to address, particular problems some students face in public schools.

Professionally, she has advanced through the ranks from High School Teacher to become Deputy Commissioner of New York State Education Department; having performed in diverse capacities on the way: Executive Director of Office of English Language Learners, Assistant Superintendent, Deputy Executive Director, Regional Instructional Specialist, Director of Early Childhood Center, Assistant Principal, Bilingual Coordinator, and Dual Language Project Director.

She's a Dominican-American woman born in Washington heights. She asserts her Latino heritage in USA by the apparent small token of insisting that her name be pronounced in Spanish: 'Angelica'. Her formal education includes a Master of Arts in Educational Supervision and Administration, Master of Arts in Educational Technology, and a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies.

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Award Recipient - Elementary Education

Administration

Victor Capellán, is Central Falls School District Superintendent in Rhode Island. Victor was born in el *Hoyo de Puchulo* en Santiago, Dominican Republic. He moved to the US at age 12.

In college, he became a passionate advocate for education reform, dedicated to helping students from all backgrounds. He has worked on K-12 school reform in New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, as well as in higher education.

As Superintendent of Schools in Central Falls, he is currently implementing a district improvement effort called *The Equity Blueprint for Success*. Victor strongly supports the restorative work taking place in Central Falls, and is helping promote the expansion of restorative practices across the state.

Mr. Capellan has an extensive history of social and political involvement which includes having been Providence Democratic Chair; CHisPA's Executive Director; having presided over national advocacy organizations like the Dominican American National Roundtable; and currently serving on the Boards of the RI Nature Conservancy and the Narragansett Boy Scouts Council.

Victor has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, a Master's degree in Human Development and Family Studies, and a Master's in Education from the University of Rhode Island.

Victor is married to Diana and a proud new father to Luís Francisco.



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**Congratulates
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For Being Honored by the Institute for Latino Studies at Berkeley College
with an Illustrious Award In Community Advocacy

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