



City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor
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News Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 4, 2011

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Paulina Lopez-Peters to receive 2011 Latino Heritage Award

Lopez-Peters to be honored at Latino Heritage Award Celebration on October 15

SEATTLE - Today, Mayor Michael McGinn and the City of Seattle Latino City Employees organization announced Paulina Lopez-Peters as the recipient of the 2011 Latino Heritage Award. Mayor McGinn will present the award on October 15, 2011, during the 7th Annual Latino Heritage Month Award Celebration at Club SUR, 2901 1st Ave S, in Seattle's SODO district. This educational and cultural event begins at 7:00 pm.

The formal program includes Luis R. Fraga, PhD (University of Washington) delivering the keynote address on "Latinos and the Reshaping of American Politics." Dr. Fraga was recently appointed to President Obama's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. The program also includes performances by Bailadores de Bronce, Balorico - Afro-Peruvian dance by Vanessa Villalobos, and live music by the City's own Susan Harper (Seattle Public Utilities). The informal part of the event continues with a night of dancing to Latin sounds by Sonora La Rebelion.

Ms. Lopez-Peters is a full time volunteer, organizer, advocate, and mom. She demonstrates leadership in her community by representing Latinos in her role as co-chair on the South Park Action Agenda Board, volunteering at the South Park Food Bank (Providence Regina House), volunteers at the South Park Seattle Public Library, and serves on Mayor McGinn's Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Board. She is an inspirational and effective community organizer in South Seattle, and a constant advocate to protect and enhance the business sector in South Park. Her community projects range from afterschool programs that promote Spanish language Literacy (Campaña Quetzal) to getting parents involved with their children's education. She also helped organize the closure event of the South Park Bridge, and most recently worked on the Sixth Annual Duwamish River Festival.

"Paulina is hard working, committed to her community (South Park and Latinos). I have never witnessed someone who was so in love with the community they live in that they give so generously of their time and treasure to make their community the best place to raise their children. Paulina demonstrates leadership, innovation, creativity, and dedication to the Latino community in Seattle and South Park", notes Maria G. Ramirez.

The Latino Heritage Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the Seattle Latino community by displaying leadership, initiative, creativity and dedication. Through their contributions, award recipients inspire others to be involved in the Latino community and make a difference.

Latino City Employees (LCE) is a voluntary organization of city of Seattle employees, and encourages professional excellence, promotes education within the Latino community, and supports cultural diversity in Seattle.

The price of tickets in advance is \$15.00, online at www.brownpapertickets.com. After October 7 and at the door tickets will be \$20.00. This is a 21 and over event.

Visit the mayor's web site at www.seattle.gov/mayor

Visit City of Seattle Latino City Employees at <http://www.seattle.gov/latinoheritage/>

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