

GALA Hispanic Theatre's Paso Nuevo present **WE ARE US / Así Somos Nosotros**

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Washington, DC - Paso Nuevo, GALA's Youth Arts Program, is proud to present **WE ARE US/ Así Somos Nosotros**, an evening of original works, on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 8 pm at GALA Theatre. Performed in English with some Spanish, the presentation is directed by Quique Avilés and Matthew Vaky. The program contains strong language and is not recommended for small children. A post-performance discussion with the youth will follow the performance.

Admission is free.

We Are US includes new work by Paso Nuevo participants; a performance and music by Chris Wonder; and a return visit to the Lobato family by Paso Nuevo alumni. The Lobato family first appeared in the Paso Nuevo presentation of **Young and Corrupted** in 2011. Through the evening's work, we will experience the lives of immigrant youth and American Latino youth whose parents were immigrants. The presentation reflects the Latino reality in Washington, D.C, and launches a celebration of 25 years of the Paso Nuevo program.

"This show," states Director Quique Avilés, "again includes the voices of the recently arrived as well as the voices of the kids of immigrant parents who have lived in this country for years. Their struggles and questions are similar: What is it that I want to say and why? Why does my opinion matter and do I feel most comfortable speaking in Spanish or English, neither or both? Paso Nuevo remains a safe place for youth from all walks of life to come and explore these questions."

The Paso Nuevo participants are Rebecca Akhigbe, Jacquelin Argueta, Jordan Berry, Mason Berry, Dalila Bermúdez, Jason Flores, Fatima Cruz González, Christian Díaz, Joselin González, Karina González, Christy Lara, Tania Latin, Vanessa Marselina López, Sandra Merino, Felicia Miranda, Te'wan Moses, Ta'Neesha Murphy, Francisco Peña, Darcy Rodríguez, Jacqueline Sibrian, Edgar Sorto, and Michael Ventura.

GALA Theatre is located at 3333 14th Street, NW in Washington, DC. Parking is available behind the theater in the Giant Food garage on Park Road, NW. The theater is one block north of the Columbia Heights Metro station on the Yellow and Green lines. For more information, call 202-234-7174 or visit www.galatheatre.org

ABOUT PASO NUEVO

Now in its 24th year, Paso Nuevo is GALA's after-school workshop program for Latino and multi-cultural youth ages 13 to 18. The workshops are held throughout the year and provide a safe environment in which youth can explore issues of identity and cultural differences, articulate their values, increase self-esteem, and gain bilingual skills that will enhance their academic performance and future career opportunities. Additionally, the youth involved in this project control all aspects of the theatrical process, from conception to technical direction and marketing.

Paso Nuevo is made possible with generous support from, the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs, State Farm, The United Way of the National Capital area, Wells Fargo, and Events DC.

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