

Latino Leader Julián Castro Among Honorees at CHCI 43rd Annual Awards Gala

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Washington, D.C.- Julián Castro, former presidential candidate and U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will be among the nation's distinguished honorees at CHCI's 43rd Annual Awards Gala on Monday, September 21. Castro, who also served as the Mayor of San Antonio in 2009-2014, will receive the prestigious Chair's Award from CHCI Chair Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-7). **Congressman Jose Serrano** (NY-15), the Dean of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, will receive the Legacy Award for his extraordinary 30-year career in public service. Serrano is the most senior Hispanic Democrat in Congress and the longest serving Puerto Rican in Congress.

"Through their tireless commitment, our most honorable public servants— Julián Castro and Congressman José Serrano—have dedicated their historic careers to improve the lives of Hispanic Americans. Their leadership symbolizes the sentiments of our theme, *Our Voice, Nuestro Poder*, and we are very proud to recognize their achievements in advocating for others, breaking down barriers, and being a beacon of hope for our country." said Rep. Gallego.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi will also deliver remarks, and **Major General Angie Salinas**, United States Marine Corps (Ret.), CEO Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas will lead a special tribute to our nation's armed forces. The Gala emcee is **Alicia Menendez**, MSNBC anchor, author of "The Likeability Trap" and host of the "Latina to Latina" podcast. Previously announced Medallion of Excellence honorees include novelist **Isabelle Allende** and culinary innovator chef **José Andrés**.

Held in an all virtual setting, the Annual Awards Gala is CHCI's signature event to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Bank of America, one of the world's leading financial institutions, is the host sponsor for the Annual Awards Gala. Attendance at the event is free but registration is required at www.chcihnm.org.

"We congratulate all of the honorees being celebrated at CHCI's 43rd Annual Awards Gala. We are also honored to support CHCI's unwavering mission to develop the next generation of Latino leaders by providing them with unique opportunities for professional and leadership development," said Raul Anaya, Head of Business Banking at Bank of America. "Our long-standing partnership is a testament to our mutual dedication to advance social and economic progress in our nation by supporting opportunities for our Latino leaders."

"I am grateful to Bank of America for its ongoing support of CHCI and Awards Gala," said Marco Davis, CHCI President and CEO. "The Gala is a culmination of CHCI's work, and the kickoff to Hispanic Heritage Month in Washington, DC where we acknowledge our rich culture and legacy, and pay homage to distinguished community leaders who have paved the way for Latinos and all Americans for generations to come."

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