

## **LATINO LEADERS NETWORK HONORS CORPORATE EXECUTIVE & AUTHOR, RICHARD P. MONTAÑA'EZ**

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Washington, DC – **Richard P. Montañez**, motivational speaker, corporate executive and author of “*A Boy, A Burrito, and A Cookie: From Janitor to Executive*”, will keynote the Latino Leaders Luncheon Series™ hosted by the Latino Leaders Network (LLN) on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 in Washington, DC. He will also receive the Eagle Leadership Award, which is presented as a symbol of vision, achievement and commitment to the Latino community.

“Richard’s story is an inspiration for all Americans. He serves as a powerful example of all that is possible through creativity and believing in yourself,” states **Mickey Ibarra**, LLN Founder and Chairman.

Having started his career at Frito-Lay as a janitor, Richard Montañez is recognized as the creator of the top-selling Flaming Hot line of products. Today, Montañez leads Multicultural Sales & Community Promotions across PepsiCo’s North American divisions leveraging best practices internally and externally to develop community partnerships. Despite the success, he has dedicated himself to giving back, with his work around education and leading economic growth garnering national attention. The program will feature an honoree introduction from **Cid Wilson**, Chairman of the board of directors for Friends of the National Museum of the American Latino, as well as Secretary of the board for the National Council of La Raza, and who has worked in the financial services industry since 1993 while serving on numerous corporate and non-profit advisory boards.

**Sonia Lopez**, President & CEO of The Cuban American National Council (CNC), will be the featured community partner, which provides human services to persons in need from all racial and ethnic groups. CNC assists individuals to become self-reliant and builds bridges among America’s diverse communities.

*The Latino Leaders Luncheon Series™ consists of quarterly events convened in Washington, DC and other cities to provide a platform for prominent Latino leaders to share their personal story of obstacles overcome to achieve success and to provide a network opportunity for elected officials, policy makers, corporate executives, opinion leaders, community activists, industry experts, and political insiders. Sponsors include Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., ExxonMobil and Southwest Airlines.*

### **About The Latino Leaders Network™**

The Latino Leaders Network™ is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to “*Bringing Leaders Together*” to establish relationships, build unity, and foster dialogue on issues important to the community. Mickey Ibarra, founder and chairman, served as Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House for President Clinton.

Other board members include: Ruben Alvarez, The Molera Alvarez Group, Phoenix, AZ; Soyla Fernandez, Fernández Government Solutions, Sacramento, CA; David Ibarra, Ibarra Foundation, Salt Lake City, UT; Maria Teresa Kumar, Voto Latino, Washington, DC; Michelle Minguez, Voto Latino, New York, NY; Miguel Santana, Chief Administrative Officer of Los Angeles, CA; and Ken Trujillo, Partner at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP, Philadelphia, PA.

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**WHERE :**

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