

## HISPANIC HERITAGE FOUNDATION AND SPONSORS HONORED EIGHT TOP HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM ACROSS USA AT 18th NATIONAL YOUTH AWARDS IN MIAMI ON JANUARY 26TH

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Washington, DC – The Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF), sponsors, community and business leaders, and celebrities honored eight high school seniors from across the United States at the 18th Annual National Youth Awards on Thursday, January 26th at the New World Center, 500 17<sup>th</sup> St, Miami Beach, FL (reception 6-7, ceremony 7-8 p.m.). The National Youth Awards will be broadcasted by Vme TV as a special and feature a performance by Grammy and Latin Grammy-nominated band *Locos por Juana*. Latin Grammy-nominated DJ *Mr. Pauer* performed during the event's reception. HHF promoted the young role models and parent through a national multi-media campaign (visit [www.HispanicHeritage.org](http://www.HispanicHeritage.org) and #NationalYA on HHF's social media platforms).

The eight winning students were selected from hundreds of regional recipients and 20,000 applicants. Students were chosen for their leadership in the classroom and community in "priority" categories (see below for categories) and boast nearly a 4.0 GPA with countless hours of community service. In addition to receiving grants for their education or a project or idea, the awardees were flown to Miami for the ceremony along with a parent and received personalized styling from Macy's.

"We are proud to honor yet another class of outstanding young Latino leaders who are already making an impact on our classrooms, communities and soon workforce," said Antonio Tijerino, President and CEO of HHF. "We are grateful to our sponsors for their shared vision and support as we focus in what we consider priority fields for America. We truly believe our Youth Awardees are leaders of today, not tomorrow. Frankly, we can't afford to wait."

The National Youth Awardees and Parent Award include (see [www.rsvpya.com](http://www.rsvpya.com) for full bios of students):

- Βυσινεσσ & Εντρεπρενευρησιπ, πρεσεντεδ βψ ΒΒζΑ Χομπασσ Αντηονψ Αματο, Γλενμοντ, ΝΨ
- Χομμυνιτψ Σερπιχε, πρεσεντεδ βψ Χολγατε-Παλμολιδε Χομπανψ: Ηενρψ Ροσσας, Πιοενιζ, ΑΖ
- Εδυχατιον, πρεσεντεδ βψ Σουτηωεστ Αιρλινεσ: Μαρια Σαλμερον Μελενδεζ, Ωασηινγτον, ΔΧ
- Ενγινερινγ, πρεσεντεδ βψ ΕξξονΜοβιλ: Αδηελι Γονζαλεζ, Χηιχαγο, ΙΛ
- Ηεαληχαρε & Σχιενχε, πρεσεντεδ βψ ΧζΣ Ηεαλη: Δεβορα Γονζαλεζ, Μιαμι, ΦΛ
- Ιννοπατιον & Τεχνηολογψ, πρεσεντεδ βψ Εντερταινμεντ Σοφτωαρε Ασσοχιατιον Φουνδατιον: θυλιαννα Ροδριγεζ, Λοσ Αγγελεσ, ΧΑ
- Αχχουντινγ & Ματη, πρεσεντεδ βψ Πριχεωατερηουσε Χοοπερ, Χλαρισσα Χαστιλλο, Ηουστον, ΤΞ
- Μεδια & Εντερταινμεντ, πρεσεντεδ βψ ΝΒΧ Υνιπερσαλ Τελεμυνδο, θονατηαν Σαλαμα, Πεληαμ, ΝΨ
- Παρεντ Αωαρδ, πρεσεντεδ βψ Λεαρνινγ Ηεροεσ, Συψαπα Μελενδεζ, Ωασηινγτον, ΔΧ

Additional partners of the Youth Awards include: Google, AT&T, Direct Auto Insurance, Herbalife, Marines, UPS, Havas FORMULATIN, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI), and NASCAR.

The Youth Awards program is the main pipeline to HHF's "eco-system" of talent that tracks, prepares and positions vetted Latino youth through the award-winning Latinos On Fast Track (LOFT) program as they transition from high school, to college and graduate school, and into their careers. Join and follow LOFT on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### **About the Hispanic Heritage Foundation**

The Hispanic Heritage Foundation – a nonprofit established by the White House in 1987 – inspires, prepares, and connects minority leaders in the classroom, community, and workforce to meet America's priorities. HHF also promotes cultural pride, accomplishment, and the great promise of the community through public awareness campaigns seen by millions. HHF is headquartered in Washington, DC, and Los Angeles with satellite workspaces in New York, Silicon Valley, San Antonio, and Miami (Visit [www.HispanicHeritage.org](http://www.HispanicHeritage.org)).

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