

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ohio Latino Affairs Commission to recognize Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans in partnership with the Latino Empowerment Outreach Network [LEON]

Columbus –The Ohio Latino Affairs Commission (OCHLA) is honored to partner for the third year in a row with the Latino Empowerment Outreach Network [LEON] to present the 35th Anniversary of the Governor’s Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards and the LEON Awards Gala, an event to recognize and honor individuals and organizations who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in their professional or community service endeavors, and who serve as role models for the growing Hispanic community in Ohio. *This year, the awards gala will take place at the Hilton Downtown Hotel in Columbus on Friday, October 16, 2015.*

This year is a special occasion as we will be celebrating:

“The 35th Anniversary of the Governor’s Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards”

Both OCHLA & LEON will present awards to recognize individuals, organizations and community friends who take the challenge daily with determination, passion and creativity, working tenaciously to ensure that their communities become a better place not only for Hispanics, but for everyone. [LEON](#) was established in 2000, as a network and a collaboration of individuals, organizations and agencies dedicated to building a healthy Latino community in Central Ohio through the development and support of programs that educate and empower Latinos. The organization’s main focus areas are on health, education, advocacy and outreach. The [Ohio Latino Affairs Commission](#) is an organization that advises state government on issues affecting Hispanic Ohioans, connects the diverse Latino communities across the state, and builds the capacity of community organizations so they may better serve the fast growing Latino population of Ohio.

The OCHLA & LEON Awards Gala is an event open to the entire community. Tickets for the event are available at \$70 per person, with Program and Dinner at 6:30 pm. Tickets for the event is available online at:

<https://dho15.eventbrite.com>

Congratulations Awardees!! - ¡Felicidades a los Galardonados!

~ Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans ~

Manuel Santana Sr., Lorain
Tillie Hidalgo Lima, Cincinnati
Joselito Gracia, Dayton
Ruben Contreras, Cincinnati
Luis Cartagena, Cleveland

~ Latino Military Service of Distinction ~

Anita Menchaca-Bratton SM Sgt., Air Force (Retired)
Pedro J. Muñoz Major, Air Force

~ Nuestra Familia ~

Leonard Hubert, Columbus
Alyssa Wagner, Dayton
Ed Cohn, Columbus
Kel Fligner, Lorain

~ Special Recognition~

Dr. Juan Andrade

~ LEON’s “Alma de La Comunidad” Award~

Anamaria Perales-Lang

For questions regarding this event, please contact (614) 728-8344 or visit <http://ochla.ohio.gov>.
Tickets for the event are available online at: <https://dho15.eventbrite.com>