

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AUG. 22, 2016**

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## **Governor's Commission to honor Latino community leaders**

**Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala set for October**

**Columbus, Ohio** — The Ohio Latino Affairs Commission (OCHLA) is honored to partner with The Ohio State University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion to host its 36<sup>th</sup> annual Governor's Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala. The event seeks to honor individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding achievements in their professional or community service endeavors, and who serve as role models for the growing Hispanic community in Ohio.

**Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan** awardees are individuals who work steadfastly to ensure their communities become a better place for both Hispanics and the general public. **Nuestra Familia (Our Family)** awardees are non-Hispanic individuals or organizations that encourage the inclusion of Latinos in Ohio, and are committed to making Ohio a welcoming place to all people. **Military Service of Distinction** awardees are Latinos in uniform who have served and continue to serve the country with honor and excellence.

The gala is open to the general public. Tickets are available at \$75 per person, which includes dinner. Proceeds for the event will go to benefit the Latino Student Scholarship Fund. Tickets can be purchase at the following link: <https://2016DistinguishedHispanicGala.eventbrite.com>

**Who:** Ohio Latino Affairs Commission  
The Ohio State University, Office of Diversity and Inclusion  
Latino Community Leaders

**What:** Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala

**When:** Friday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
6:30 p.m.

**Where:** The Blackwell Inn and Conference Center  
2110 Tuttle Park Palace  
Columbus, Ohio 43210

**Congratulations Awardees!! - ¡Felicidades a los Galardonados!**

**~ Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans ~**

Yvonne Bravo Wathen, Centerville	Carmen Rivera, Lorain
Farrah Jacquez, Cincinnati	Lorraine Vega, North Olmsted
Luz Elena Schemmel, Cincinnati	Jacqueline Rioja-Velarde, Oxford
Jose Feliciano, Columbus	Sofia Quintero & Cultural Center, Toledo
Lourdes Barroso de Padilla, Columbus	Mirta Chapman-Reyes, Youngstown

**~ Nuestra Familia [Our Family] Awardees ~**

Glenna Anderson, Cincinnati  
Katherine Fowler-Cordova, Cincinnati  
MetroHealth System, Cleveland  
Molina Healthcare, Columbus  
James Dunne, Franklin/Dayton  
Richard & Larissa Reidy, Lorain

**~ Latino Military Service of Distinction ~**

Andres Nazario, Beavercreek  
Claudio Garcia-Castro, Worthington

***About the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission***

***The Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs is an organization that  
1) advises state government on issues affecting Hispanic Ohioans,  
2) connects the diverse Latino communities across the state and, 3) builds the capacity of community  
organizations so they may better serve the fast growing Latino population of Ohio.***