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Presidential Remarks: National Medal
of Arts and The National Humanities
Medal Event, The White House,
Sep 29 97

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I am delighted to be here this morning to honor the 1997 recipients of the National Medal of Arts and the National Humanities Medal. I want to thank the First Lady for all she does personally to celebrate and support the arts and humanities. I also want to acknowledge the Members of Congress who are here with us today; Bruce Lehman [LAY-men], Acting Chair of the NEH; John Brademas, Chairman of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities; and Diane Frankel, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

I'd like to say a word of special thanks to Jane Alexander for her outstanding leadership and courage at the helm of the National Endowment for the Arts.

I want to recognize Sheldon Hackney, who recently served our nation so well as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and who has added great depth to our national conversation on race and unity.

This morning, we honor 20 men and women and one organization for their extraordinary achievements in the arts and humanities. By giving these awards, we also applaud America's achievements. We celebrate our capacity for individual expression and common understanding; we rejoice in our nation's thriving diversity; and we take pride in the power of imagination that animates our democracy.

Above all, by giving these awards, we declare to ourselves and to the world: we are and always have been a nation of creators and innovators. We are and always will be a nation that supports our artists and scholars. That is our heritage -- and it must be our gift to the future.

We are fast approaching a new millennium, a time of new opportunity and renewed responsibility to prepare ourselves for the challenges ahead. As we go forward, we must ask ourselves what we will take with us: how will we honor our past, and how will we imagine our future?

Today, I invite each of you to be our partners in the White House Millennium Program, and help us to make sure the millennium is marked by a renewed commitment to the arts and humanities in every community.

One of our most important goals for the millennium is to give every child in America access to the universe of knowledge and ideas, by connecting every school and library in America to the Internet by the year 2000.

Working together with business leaders, we have made solid progress. And as we work to connect our schools and libraries, we must make sure that once our children can log on to the Internet, they don't get lost there.

Today, I am pleased to announce that on October 27th, the NEH, in partnership with MCI and the Council of Great City Schools, will throw the switch on a new educational website called Ed-SITE-ment. This exciting new tool will help teachers, students and their parents navigate among thousands of educational websites. Most important, it will expand our children's horizons and instill in them an early appreciation for the culture and values that will be with them throughout their lives.

President Kennedy once said that he looked forward to an America that raised the standards of artistic achievement, and enlarged cultural opportunities for all of our citizens.

The men and women we are here to honor have brought us much closer to realizing his great vision. More than 30 years later, at the edge of a new millennium, we must pledge ourselves anew to meet his challenge.

Now, it gives me great pleasure to present the 1997 National Medal of Arts, and National Medal of Humanities Awards. First, the National Medal of Arts.

Like Martha Graham and Georgia O'Keefe, Louise Bourgeois' [boor-JWAH's] name is synonymous with innovation, and her life is proof that the creative impulse never fades. In 1981 her retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art -- the first to be devoted to a woman artist -- encompassed 40 years of extraordinary work.

Since then, she has created another lifetime of
enduring art. And I have no doubt that she has more to
teach us. Ladies and gentlemen, ^{JEAN LOUIS [ZHAN} ~~Louise~~ ^{LOO-EE]} Bourgeois,
^{THE ARTIST'S SON, WILL ACCEPT THE}
[*Present award.*] AWARD ON HER BEHALF.

When Betty Carter sings "Baby its Cold Outside," all
I want to do is curl up in front of a fire ... even in the dead
of summer. Performing with the likes of Ray Charles,
Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, and Lionel Hampton, she
is a goddess in the pantheon of jazz. And her greatness
comes not only from her unforgettable voice -- but from
her passionate commitment to helping young artists
develop their own careers. Ladies and gentlemen, the
incomparable Betty Carter. [*Present award.*]

We can't celebrate art today without celebrating the people who help us to experience it. Aggie Gund has spent a lifetime bringing art into the lives of the American people. With "Studio in a School," she forged a new partnership between professional artists and public schools to introduce children to the joys of creative expression. And as President of the Museum of Modern Art, she is helping to usher in the 21st Century of art. Ladies and gentlemen, Aggie Gund. [*Present award.*]

Dan Kiley is one of those rare artists who join the beauty and variety of nature with the joy and form of design.

From the National Mall to the National Gallery, Dan Kiley has helped to redefine the American landscape. In his thought-provoking, memorable designs, building and site come together as one, proving that great landscapes and great buildings are part of the same vision. Ladies and gentlemen, Daniel Kiley. [*Present award.*]

It's no mystery why Angela Lansbury deserves this award . . . From the Royal Shakespeare Theatre to Broadway to television, she has created vivid characters we cannot forget. For that work, she has earned three Academy Award nominations, four Tony Awards, and sixteen Emmy Awards.

To that wall of honors, we add this one, for she is her own unforgettable character. Ladies and gentlemen, Angela Lansbury. [*Present award.*]

A hush falls in the Metropolitan Opera as the great chandelier rises and James Levine raises his baton. For 25 years and 1,600 performances of 70 different operas, countless opera-goers, television watchers, and radio listeners have shared that experience -- and shared in the great gift of James' Levine's talent. His work has renewed the grand tradition of opera, and infused it with new life for the next generation of opera lovers. Ladies and gentlemen, James Levine. [*Present award.*]

Just hearing Tito Puente's name makes you want to get up and dance. With his finger on the pulse of Latin American musical tradition, and his hands on the timbales [tim-BAH-lays], he has probably gotten more people out of their seats and onto the dance floor than any other living artist. For fifty years, the irrepressible joy of his irreplaceable music has won him four Grammy Awards, countless honors, and a wide world of fans. Ladies and gentlemen, Tito Puente. [*Present award.*]

If anyone has given a voice to American dramatic arts, it is Jason Robards.

In the great works of our greatest playwrights -- Eugene O'Neill, Lillian Hellman, Clifford Odets, Arthur Miller -- and in Academy Award winning performances in great movies like "All the President's Men," he has brought the American experience to life with characters that animate history and illuminate the human condition. Ladies and gentlemen, Jason Robards. [*Present award.*]

Edward Villella quite literally leapt onto the world stage of ballet, and changed it forever with the stunning grace and muscular athleticism that are his signature style. As Principal Dancer with the New York City Ballet, he collaborated with the men who quite literally defined 20th Century ballet: George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins.

And as Artistic Director of the Miami City Ballet, he is attracting the ballet audience of the 21st Century.

Ladies and gentlemen, Edward Villella. [*Present award.*]

I don't think there's a baby boomer alive who didn't spend at least a few minutes trying to learn to pick a guitar like Doc Watson. A guitar virtuoso whose unique style merges many musical traditions, he started his remarkable career at age 13, armed with a \$12 guitar and a deep love of mountain music. Five Grammy Awards and a lifetime of achievement later, he still lives on the land his great-great grand daddy homesteaded. And he's still making that old time mountain music. Ladies and gentlemen, Doc Watson. [*Present Award.*]

For our artists to create the kind of works we are here to celebrate, they must have three things: time, space, and inspiration. And for nearly a century, that is what more than 4,500 artists have found at the MacDowell Colony. On this 450-acre farm in rural New Hampshire, Thornton Wilder wrote "Our Town;" Leonard Bernstein finished his great "Mass." Today, a new generation of artists thrives in the atmosphere created by composer Edward MacDowell and his wife Marian. Ladies and gentlemen, Robert MacNeil, Chairman of the MacDowell Colony will accept the award. [*Present Award.*]

Now, I have the honor of introducing the recipients of the National Humanities Medal.

These men and women keep the American memory
alive -- and infuse the future with new ideas.

First, Nina Archabal [ARCH-uh-ball]. To those who
know and work with Nina, she is a fireball who lets no
one stand in the way of her mission to preserve
Minnesota's history. To the State of Minnesota, she is a
bridge builder between native peoples and other
Minnesotans, helping them share their stories. And to
America, she exemplifies how tradition informs everyday
life and shapes history. Ladies and gentlemen, Nina
Archabal. [*Present Award.*]

David Berry and I share a goal: to strengthen our nation's two-year community colleges so more Americans can get the education they need to succeed in life, no matter how old they are or where they come from. As a Professor of History at Essex County College in Newark, New Jersey, he has broadened the horizons and expanded the dreams of his students. And as the Director of the Community College Humanities Association he is helping two-year colleges all over the country to do the same. Ladies and gentlemen, David Berry. [*Present award.*]

As the enormously successful former Chairman and CEO of an investment banking firm, Richard Franke [FRANK-ee] could have rested on his achievements. Instead, he made it his mission to advance the cause of the humanities in everyday life. Through the Chicago Humanities Festival he founded in 1989, he is bringing the pleasures of art and ideas to the people of the great city of Chicago, and his commitment to the Humanities extends to the entire country. Ladies and gentlemen, Richard ^{ea} Franke. [*Present award.*]

I doubt there is a more revered force in American education than Bill Friday. As the President of the University of North Carolina, he devoted himself to improving education for all Americans. There is hardly an important educational task force he hasn't sat on. He helped to found the National Humanities Center; he sat on the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education and the President's Task Force on Education. And as Executive Director of the Kenan [KEE-nen] Charitable Trust, he continues his life of achievement. Ladies and gentlemen, Bill Friday. [*Presents award.*]

Don Henley has already won so many awards for his music, I ~~know~~ he doesn't need another. But today, we are honoring him not for another hit record, but for protecting a vital part of our nation's history: the woods that inspired Henry David Thoreau to write his greatest work, "Walden." And through his support of the Thoreau Institute, Don is also keeping Thoreau's great legacy alive for the 21st Century. Ladies and gentlemen, Don Henley.

Concord Mass

[*Present award.*]

Great writers reveal a world we've never seen but instantly recognize as authentic. Maxine Hong Kingston is such a writer.

In her groundbreaking book "The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of Girlhood Among Ghosts," she brought the Asian American experience to life for millions of readers, and inspired a new generation of writers to make their own unique voices and experiences heard. Ladies and gentlemen, Maxine Hong Kingston. [*Present award.*]

The great chorus of American voices has also been immeasurably enlarged by the work of Luis Leal. For 50 years, he has told the story of the Chicano people, here in America and all over the Latin world. In 16 books, he has revealed the unique voice of Latin literature.

In 1995, in recognition of his great contributions, the University of California created the Luis Leal Endowed Chair in Chicano Studies, the only one of its kind. Ladies and gentlemen, Luis Leal [loo-EESS lay-AL]. [*Presents award.*]

As we approach the millennium, many Americans are examining their spirituality, their faith, and the role of religion in our nation's life. No one has thought more deeply about these questions than Martin E. Marty.

A renowned scholar of religious history, he is the author of 50 books, and the Director of the Public Religion Project at the University of Chicago, which finds common ground in our diverse communities of faith.

Ladies and gentlemen, Martin Marty. [*Presents award.*]

Paul Mellon has elevated the great tradition of American philanthropy to an art form. His gifts have immeasurably strengthened the cultural institutions that are at the very heart of our civil society, including the National Gallery. With his sister, he established the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the nation's largest private funder of the humanities.

And through his exceptional generosity, he has enriched the libraries of our nation with precious collections of the world's great works. Ladies and gentlemen, Robert Smith, of the National Gallery of Art, will accept the award on behalf of Paul Mellon. [*Present award.*]

Studs Terkel: No one has done more to expand the American library of voices than Studs Terkel. He has quite literally defined the art of the oral history, bringing the stories of ordinary people to life in his unique style--and letting the everyday experiences that deepen our history speak for themselves.

That is why I am so pleased that he has agreed to advise the White House Millennium Program on the best way to collect family and community histories -- a project we will launch with the NEH this coming Spring. Ladies and gentlemen, Studs Terkel. [*Present award.*]

Please join me in another round of applause for these outstanding Americans. And now, I invite you to enjoy the Marine Orchestra, and I thank you all for coming.

[*The event concludes.*]

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 25, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS INSTITUTE DINNER

The Washington Hilton Hotel
Washington, D.C.

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9:50 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you so much. Well, I thought I had a long day in Pennsylvania. (Laughter.) I went to Pittsburgh and to Robert Morris College. Robert Morris was one of the main financiers of the American Revolution, and he quit the Continental Congress in 1778 because he thought they were printing too much hot money. I guess he would have quit the Congress in the 12 years the other folks were making economic policy. (Laughter.)

I announced there, with Secretary Rubin, a new savings instrument for the American people, a bond that will appreciate with inflation -- an inflation-proof savings bond that the American people will be able to buy from now on, so that families that are trying to save for their children's education or for their retirement will always know that inflation will not eat up the value of a secure government investment. I'm very proud of that, it was a good day. (Applause.)

I went then to Philadelphia and I went down to the south side to eat a Philly cheesesteak, a lot of you have done that. (Applause.) And all the people were gathering in the neighborhood and I met a lady who had just been in our country for three months, she had moved here from Hong Kong and she introduced me to her children and she said, I can't believe this happens in America. I said, well, ma'am, that's the way it works here, I work for you, not the other way around. (Laughter.) And she was pretty happy about that and I was glad to see it. (Applause.)

So then I went to two events there and came home just in time to put on my uniform so I could come and be with you. (Laughter.) I thank you, Ed Pastor, for your leadership. I thank all the members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus for their service to our country. Thank you, Rita Elizondo, for your leadership for the Caucus Institute; the Institute Fellows, thank you for your support. John Quinones, I wish I had heard you, you're probably better at this than I am. To the members of my Cabinet who are here and the members of our administration in every facet of it, I thank you for your service and for being here. (Applause.)

I would like to say a special word of thanks to my long-time friend, Congressman Kika de la Garza. I heard the last of his remarks outside and I loved it; I wish I had heard the whole thing. He is a wonderful man, much loved and much respected; he will be much missed and we wish him well and thank him for his remarkable service. (Applause.)

As Ed said, this is the fourth year you have invited me

and the fourth year I've showed up. (Applause.) You know, by this time of the year I'm normally pretty tired, even when it's not an election year. I come here out of purely selfish motives. There is more energy in this room than any other place I go all year long and you get me going, you know. (Applause.) As all of you know, I have been trying to sort of improve my Spanish as my daughter races off into the sunset of increasing fluency, and I try to demonstrate that every year and it was suggested that I try to do something different this year, that maybe I should do the macarena -- but Al Gore has a corner on that. (Applause.) I can't begin to move in the way he does doing that. So how about this: Siempre es un placer estar con ustedes. (Applause.)

Now, tomorrow I will get a grade on this from Bill Richardson. I hope the others will be more gracious. (Laughter.)

This is the 19th anniversary of the Caucus Institute. You have worked to do some profoundly important things. You have worked to demonstrate what I have been working for in America -- opportunity for all, responsibility from all and an American community that truly includes all of us. For the last few weeks I've had the extraordinary opportunity to get out and around our country again. Hillary and Al and Tipper and I have traveled by rail, by bus, we've gone all over America. We've asked people everywhere to help us build the bridge to the 21st century. And, frankly, I have been overwhelmed by the hope, the conviction, the energy, the determination that I see in the faces of people.

We were in Seattle not very long ago, in the rain -- and I know it always rains in Washington, but 35,000 people waited, some of them up to four hours, in the rain to say they wanted to build a bridge to the 21st century that we could all walk across -- they did not think that we should walk away from one another, and they believed it does take a village to raise a child and to build a country. (Applause.)

Now, that's a far cry from where we were four years ago. We had high unemployment, the slowest job growth since the Great Depression, stagnant wages, rising crime, increasing cynicism among our people and evidence of division that was truly troubling. Washington had been caught up for too long, in my view, in asking who's to blame and who shortly had spent too little time in asking the question that I always ask everybody when they bring me a problem -- I ask, well, what are we going to do about it. That's important -- what are we going to do. (Applause.) Not who can we blame, not how can we divide the American people for our political advantage. But how can we come together and meet our challenges, advance our values and give our children a better future.

Well, we've been working at that for four years now and we've gotten some pretty good results. If you look at them, they're hard to dispute. In the last four years we've got 10.5 million new jobs. In the last four years we have record numbers of new small businesses. We have record numbers of new businesses owned by all kinds of minorities and women. We have an astonishing growth in homeownership, it's at a 15-year high. The combined rates of home mortgages, unemployment and inflation are at a 28-year low. (Applause.)

Of the 10.5 million new jobs, 1.5 million of those job holders were Hispanic American. (Applause.) Crime has gone down in this country four years in a row. The welfare rolls are down by nearly 2 million. Child support collections are up 40 percent, about \$3 billion. Twelve million Americans have been able to take some time off under the Family and Medical Leave law when a baby is born

or a parent is sick. (Applause.)

Under the increase which the Congress voted in 1993 in the earned income tax credit, 15 million working families have been given a tax cut -- it's worth about \$1,000 in lower taxes to a family of four with an income of less than \$28,000, and that's most Hispanic families in the United States. And that's one big reason that the welfare rolls are down, because we're making work pay. On October 1st, 10 million more Americans will get a pay raise when the minimum wage increase goes into effect. (Applause.)

In addition to that, we have moved hard to help small businesses where most of the new jobs are being created. Every small business in America is now eligible for a substantial tax cut when they spend more money to invest in their business, to become more productive or hire new people. People who are self-employed are now getting a bigger tax deduction on their health insurance premiums. And we've made it a lot easier for people in small business to take out pensions for themselves and their employees and then to take those pensions from job to job.

The Kennedy-Kassebaum bill says to 25 million Americans you can't be denied health insurance anymore just because you changed jobs or because someone in your family has been sick -- a very important advance. (Applause.) And I'm very pleased that at the end of this session of Congress we finally were able to get an agreement that new mothers and their newborns should not be thrown out of the hospital before the doctor says that they are ready to leave. (Applause.)

We're breathing cleaner air. Our food standards have been improved. We've shut down more toxic waste dumps in the last three years than the previous administration did in the last 12, the last two. Our deficit has gone down four years in a row for the first time since before the Civil War. (Applause.) That's the good news. Do you want the bad news? The President who did that was John Tyler and John Tyler did not win reelection. (Laughter.) But it was still a good thing to do, and it's too bad it's been 150 years since it happened. And we're better off because that means lower interest rates. It means lower interest rates on your car payments, your house payments, your credit card payments, lower interest rates for business people who borrow money to invest and grow the American economy.

Clearly, if you look at all the evidence we are moving in the right direction and we need to keep right on going in that direction. (Applause.)

In addition to the 1.5 million new jobs for Hispanic Americans, more than 220,000 of those new businesses are owned by Hispanics. The unemployment rate has gone down to single digits for the first time in a long time for Hispanics, wages are on the rise. We are clearly moving in the right direction.

Now, one reason I believe that we've been able to do these things is that I have done my best to create, as Ed alluded to, a real partnership that includes everybody in America who's willing to work with us for the common good. I was rather surprised when I came to Washington that I was attacked even by some people who claim to be progressive, for making an honest effort to put together an administration that looked like America. I said that I would never sacrifice quality. I said I believed we could have excellence and diversity, but I thought it was worth taking a little time to have both because I thought we would be more effective. (Applause.)

If you look at our judicial appointments, which include a record number of Hispanics, a record number of women, a record number of other minorities, those judicial appointments as a group have the highest ratings from the American Bar Association of any presidencies since they have been doing the ratings. You can have excellence and diversity.

It's also important that we recognize that in our policy-making and in our politics we have people involved. You know that this room is full of members of my administration. I mentioned them before, but I want you to know that I'm proud of each and every one of them. Their voices are heard, their work is legendary and they have made a difference for you and for all the American people. I am proud of them. (Applause.)

I'd also like to thank the Hispanic Americans who are in our campaign -- Linda Chavez-Thompson, the highest ranking Hispanic in organized labor, our honorary chair. (Applause.) Ray Martinez, who's left the White House to go work in our reelection. And Mickey Ebara who's serving as a senior advisor, my senior Hispanic in the campaign. (Applause.)

I'd like to make another announcement tonight. Our campaign, as all campaigns do, has to have certain funds accumulated which we have to save for other purposes later. We have decided to deposit \$5 million equally among four minority-owned banks, two Hispanic banks and two African American banks. (Applause.) One is the largest Hispanic commercial bank in our country, the International Bank of Commerce in Laredo. (Applause.) The other is the Banco Popularo of Puerto Rico, which has a branch in New York. (Applause.)

The \$1.25 million going to each bank will help them to support inner-city development, it will stimulate growth in other investment. It means job stability and new life for their communities. This is the first time, I was surprised to learn, that any national campaign has made this kind of commitment to any minority-owned bank, and I think it is a very good thing to do. (Applause.)

Ed was saying when he introduced me that we've done a lot of good things together, but that is in the past. I didn't like quite the tone of it, but I don't think he meant it that way, do you? (Laughter.) But it reminded me of a story once. When I was running for reelection as governor of my home state in 1984, I went through a litany of things that I had done as governor -- just kind of like I just did with you. And all I said -- and frankly, I thought it was a great speech -- I was out in the country giving this speech on a country crossroads, and there was a man in overalls in the mountains of North Arkansas, in the Ozarks, leaning up against a tree -- he'd always supported me, listening to this speech. I mean, I thought it was really great. I thought I was terrific.

So after it was over I went up to him and I said, well, what do you think. He said, well, that's a pretty good speech. He said, I heard all that about what a good job you did. But, he said, now, after all, that is what we hired you to do and you did draw a paycheck every two weeks. (Laughter.) He said, this election is about what you're going to do if we give you a new contract, not what you did before. And, in truth, that is what this election is about. And my record and the record of all those others who are running for office is really relevant only as an indication of what we will do in the future and whether our general view of the direction for our country is right or wrong.

I believe that this is a profoundly important election because we will decide whether to validate my view, which is that what we ought to be doing is breaking out of the old stale debates that paralyze politics up here too long and being really committed to finishing the work of build that bridge, so that every American has the opportunity to make the most of his or her life; so that we are growing together, instead of coming together, we're beating the odds in the rest of the world, consumed by ethnic and religious and tribal and racial hatreds. We're going to say, no, in America we're going to be together, we're going to make a virtue of our diversity and wear it like a badge of honor and a cloak of pride. (Applause.)

But to do that we have to decide: are we going to build a bridge to the future or try to build a bridge to the past. Is it going to be a big, wide bridge strong enough for everybody to walk across and strong enough to stay up so that all of our kids and grandkids can walk across it after us. And are we going to build it together. Do we think it takes a village, or do we think you are better off on your own. Is the government inherently bad and part of the problem and totally irrelevant to this modern, high-tech entrepreneurial world; or is the government inherently neither good or bad, simply the servant of the people that has a role to play, but not the only role in the partnerships that we have to create. These are the questions we must face in this election. (Applause.)

I want to build a bridge to the 21st century that will keep this economy growing until everybody has a chance to live up to the fullest of their abilities. (Applause.) That means a lot of things. It means, yes, we have to go on and balance the budget because that will keep interest rates down and that will help you to grow, those of you in the private sector to grow this country. But it means we have to do it in a way that honors our obligations to our parents and our children; to those who through no fault of their own need our help and will do better, and so will we, if they get a little of our help. We have to honor our obligations to the environment and to our future. We have to invest in education and in research and technology.

And if we walk away from those things, we will pay a terrible price; and no one will do as well as all of us will if we work together. (Applause.)

Can we have tax cuts? Yes, we can, but they ought to be targeted to the people who need them and to the places that will do the most good -- to child-rearing, to paying for college education, to helping people pay for health care, or to buy a first-time home, or not imposing taxes on the gainpeople have when they sell their homes because that's the only savings a lot of people have. We can pay for those things and balance the budget and protect Medicare, Medicaid, education and the environment. That's the right direction for the future and that's the way to build a bridge we can all walk across. (Applause.)

We also have to commit ourselves to the proposition that in the modern world education is more important even than it was for us and our parents; that our children will be doing jobs that have not been invented yet, that many of them will be doing jobs that have not been imagined yet. And so it is unacceptable that 40 percent of our third graders cannot read on their own. That's why I have a plan to mobilize an army, literally an army, of reading tutors to work with teachers and schools and with parents so that by the year 2000 every eight-year-old can pick up a book and say, I can read this all by myself. That is terribly important. (Applause.)

We must also understand that technology, if we use it

right, offers us an opportunity to democratize educational opportunity and educational excellence in ways that were never before attainable. If we achieve the goal that the Vice President and I have set out, to hook up every classroom and every library, not only with computers and software and trained teachers, but to the information Superhighway, to the Internet, to the World Wide Web, to all these interlocking networks of information, if we do that by the year 2000, then for the first time in American history the children in the poorest, remotest school district in the mountains of my home state of Arkansas, the children in the poorest school districts in south Texas, the children in the poorest inner-city neighborhood will for the first time ever have access to the same information in the same way, in the same time as the children in the wealthiest districts of the United States. It will explode opportunity in the United States if we do it. (Applause.)

And, finally, we ought to build a bridge to the 21st century that says we're going to create education for a lifetime for everyone beginning with the proposition that everybody who's willing to work hard ought to be able to go to college, and we're going to make it available to every single person in this country. (Applause.)

We can do it pretty simply. Almost every American lives within driving distance of a community college. I want to say if you'll go get two years of education after high school, so that we can make that as universal in four years as a high school education is today, you can take the cost of a typical community college tuition right off your tax bill, dollar for dollar, a tax credit for two years to do that. That's paid for in our balanced budget plan. (Applause.)

I want to say you can save in an IRA and withdraw money from that IRA with no tax penalty at all if you're paying for a college education. And I believe we ought to let people deduct the cost of any education after high school for the tuition, up to \$10,000 a year -- for undergraduate school, graduate school, you name it, that money will pay itself back many times over. (Applause.)

I want to build a bridge to the 21st century where everybody has a chance to work. And I want to challenge every one of you now to examine what your own responsibilities are under this new welfare reform law. Let me explain to you exactly what it says, and imagine what it means in a community where you live. The law says that the United States will continue to guarantee to poor families eligible for welfare health care, nutrition and if the parent goes to work, more child care by far than ever before. But the monthly welfare check which used to go -- which is part federal money, part state money -- which used to go direct to the recipient may still continue to do that, but now the states have to come up with a plan that will be community-based to move people who are able-bodied from the welfare check into a paycheck within two years.

Now, the only way this will work is if in every community in the country -- employers and churches and nonprofit and educational institutions, as well as people involved in social work -- are actively involved in this.

I was just in Kansas City -- let me just give you this example, because it's important, anybody can do this. Two years ago our administration gave the state of Missouri a waiver to try an experiment in Kansas city that I have been begging for years every place in America to do. Here's what they do in Kansas city. They say if you will hire a new employee -- not a replacement, but a new

employee -- from the welfare rolls, we'll give you the welfare check for up to four years as a wage supplement. And if you're a small business person and you don't have a health care policy, we'll cover them with Medicaid for four years.

And in that four years you have to pay them at least \$6 an hour above the minimum wage, but let's say the welfare check is worth \$2.00 an hour, or \$2.50 -- you keep that, and that's what we pay you for helping us give those folks a new life, for training them, for investing in them, for dealing with people who may have never been in the workforce before and all the little problems that may mean, but we want you to give them a new chance.

I met a man running a business with 25 employees, five of his employees are people who came from the welfare rolls. He says they're all doing great. And when they leave, if they leave early, he can keep that position for up to 10 years if he'll keep bringing people onto the welfare rolls. Folks, if we do that in every community in the country and people like you sign up and say, what can I do, this is now my problem, I'm tired of complaining about it, we have a responsibility to give people a future and the ability to support their children and I will participate, we can solve this problem and we'll have a community-based support system for poor families that is work-oriented and that does not isolate people. (Applause.) But we have to do it and I am committed to helping the states and the cities create a million new jobs to solve that problem in the next four years and I want to ask you to help. (Applause.)

Let me say -- there's a lot more things that I could talk about. There are things we have to do in crime, things we have to do in the environment. We have health care challenges still to go. Our balanced budget plan helps people keep their health insurance when they're between jobs for six months -- 5 million people a year change jobs and are without health insurance for some time just because they're changing jobs and they're unemployed for several months. We have a lot more to do.

But the main thing I want to say to you is we have to decide whether we believe we have an obligation to work toward this future together. This is not about big government. We have the smallest government in Washington we've had since President Kennedy was here. And as a percentage of our workforce, it's the smallest it's been since Franklin Roosevelt took the oath of office in 1933. That is a red herring. (Applause.) But we do need -- we do need -- a government that can bring us together and help us to go forward together.

There are some things we cannot do on our own. We're building a Supercomputer with IBM, and IBM is no tiny company, they needed us to help. It's a research project that will give us a Supercomputer that -- listen to this -- will do more calculations in one second than you can go home and do on your hand-held calculator in 30,000 years. Now, I don't know about you, but I think it's worth it, I want America to have the first one of those. (Applause.) And it means more jobs and more discoveries.

Every time we send a mission into space we learn something else about how the human body works and we learn something else about the earth's environment that will help our children and our grandchildren create opportunity and live in a better world. The investments we have made in the last few years have reaped untold benefits. The average life expectancy of people with AIDS and HIV has more than doubled in the last four years alone because of medical research and moving drugs to market faster. (Applause.)

A lot of you were very moved, as I was, I'm sure, by Christopher Reeve's wonderful speech at the Democratic Convention. At about the time he made that speech, just a few days before, for the first time in history laboratory animals whose spines had been severed had movement in their lower limbs because of nerve transplants. That's what research brings you.

So it is simply not true that we do not need to invest in our common future -- whether it's education, the environment, health care, research or technology. We do. It does take a village and we do have to build a bridge and that is the decision before the American people that I know you, the most family-oriented group in the United States, will help to make the right decision. (Applause.)

Let me also say a strong word of thanks to every member of Congress here today that helped us to get that Gallegly provision out of the immigration bill. It was a great victory. (Applause.)

For the life of me, I could never understand why the leaders of the other party wanted to put that provision in and try to turn teachers into people who would be putting kids on the street -- when every law enforcement agency, every education agency in the world said so. So we got it out of there. Oh, if it comes to my desk, it's history. But I don't think the Gallegly amendment will even pass now. I don't believe the Senate will vote for it. (Applause.) I believe when it's put up there, I doubt very seriously that the Senate will do that.

But, anyway, for those of you that helped to get it out, I thank you.

Let me also say that I do believe we should have a tough, strong defense against people who violate our immigration laws because it's unfair to people who wait in line to be legal immigrants. But I'm proud of the fact that this year, by the end of 1996, more than one million people will have become citizens by naturalization in one year. That is more than twice as many as last year. (Applause.) And I think one of the things that's happened here in this very ill-advised assault on legal immigrants, the people who have carried it on have made a lot more people interested in becoming citizens and exercising their right to vote and being heard and saying we don't appreciate people who try to divide the American people. And that is a very positive thing. (Applause.)

Let me just close with this thought: There's no country in the world better positioned for the 21st century than we are, in no small measure because of you. Our neighbors to the south, all the way to the tip of South America, are the second fastest growing region in the world. They're our trading partners, our friends, all but one of their countries is a democracy. If you think about how well America is positioned, what we have to do is to create the conditions in which we have opportunity and responsibility so we're making progress on our challenges here at home; and then we have to beat this terrible thing that has bedeviled the rest of the world, this curse of the human spirit which makes whole groups of people believe that the only way they can exist and feel important is if they have some other group of people to look down on, to hate, to fight, to shoot.

Look at Bosnia, a small country where biologically the Croats, the Serbs and the Muslims are indistinguishable. There is no true ethnic difference. They are in different groups because of accidents of political history. They lived together in peace and harmony for decades, and in no time at all they were killing each other's children. Now we've had peace for several months, nearly a year; now we've had elections. It's going to be a long road back for

people that had, among other things, one of the most beautiful cities in the world in Sarajevo, and were willing to throw it all away just so they could feel superior to somebody else.

Look at Northern Ireland, where they had a cease-fire for 15 months and Hillary and I went over there and the Catholics and the Protestants lined the streets together and cheered. And people who did not have the patience for peace broke the cease-fire. Then others did things that were foolish. Now they're back to arguing about battles that occurred 600 years ago, that have nothing to do with the future of any Catholic or Protestant child in Northern Ireland.

Look at the Middle East, where every day we see both the exhilaration and the heartbreak that comes from the progress of peace and the shattering of hopes because they cannot lay down the things which have driven stakes in too many hearts. Some people I overreact when a church is burned or a synagogue is defaced or an Islamic center is destroyed in this country. But what makes this country work is you don't have to be in any ethnic or racial or religious group; all you have to do is say I believe in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, show up tomorrow, do the right thing, raise your kids, and you're part of our country. That is what is special about America. (Applause.)

And, folks, I understand there are difficult issues and I understand when people are having a hard time economically they get frustrated. But that's why I fought to mend affirmative action instead of destroy it. That's why I stood against Proposition 187 in California and the CPRI -- (applause) -- because I think we have to prove that America is different. And we're going to be given a chance to prove it.

Think how tragic it would be if having won the Cold War for freedom, seeing the nuclear threat recede -- I was so proud that America was the first country to sign the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty yesterday at the United Nations, banning all nuclear testing forever -- (applause) -- think how tragic it would be if we did all that and then we saw the world consumed by terrorism, by weapons of mass destruction like biological and chemical weapons, by organized crime and drug gangs and all that, but all of it rooted in nations consumed by tribal, racial, ethnic and religious hatred.

It does not have to be that way. We know better. We know better.

So all of us, but especially you, who have succeeded, who are articulate, who can pierce people's heart and get people's reasoning going, you've got to say one of the things that we have to say to ourselves and to the world in this season of democratic choosing is this is one country, we like our diversity, we are proud of it and we are going to take it into the next century. All of us are going across that bridge because we know if we do that our best days are still ahead.

Thank you and God bless you all. (Applause.)

END

10:25 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 16, 1997

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

Washington Hilton Hotel
Washington, D.C.

8:15 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Thank you for the wonderful welcome you have given to the Vice President and me. Thank you, Javier. Thank you, Carmen, Carolina. To the members of Congress who are here, members of the Hispanic Caucus Institute, members of our administration -- all those who were introduced by the Vice President. I'd also like to acknowledge the presence here of the general chairman of our political party, the Democratic Party, Governor Roy Romer of Colorado. Welcome, Governor Romer. (Applause.)

Javier pointed out that I have been here all five years I have been President. I come because I have a good time. (Laughter.) I like it. (Applause.) I know that here I will see the future of America, the vitality, the energy, the commitment, the passion necessary to make this country what it ought to be. (Applause.) But I have been here five times. (Laughter.) I mean, those of us who are linguistically challenged -- (laughter) -- always learn a few phrases -- you know, su voto es sus votos; mi casa es su casa. (Laughter.) Now I can say, su caucus es mi caucus. (Applause.)

I come here because when I leave here I feel more alive, I feel more committed, I feel new energy, and I like what I see. I thank the members of Congress for their service. I thank the Hispanics who have served in our administration more than in any other in the past; the members of the Cabinet who are here -- Secretary Pena, Ambassador Richardson, Aida Alvarez. To all those in the White House -- Maria Eschevesta, Mickey Ibarra, Janet Murguia, and others. To my speechwriter, Carolyn Curiel, who I will soon nominate to be Ambassador to Belize. (Applause.) Gloria Tristani, who I have just elected to serve as the newest member of the Federal Communications Commission. (Applause.)

There is also another person who I want to acknowledge who will have a lot to do with seeing that the face of the federal government and the policies of the federal government reflect the face and the heart of America. And here with me tonight is my nominee for Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, Bill Lee. And I'd like to ask him to be recognized. (Applause.)

He grew up a Chinese American in New York, has spent a lot of his life working for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. He has worked to defend and protect the civil rights of the most vulnerable among us. And I thank you for your continued support for his nomination.

I'd also like to mention two people who aren't here tonight. We all miss Frank Tejeda whose career ended far too soon, as did his remarkable life. But I want to say again how much I enjoyed working with him and how much I miss him. (Applause.) And I'd also like to say a very special word of appreciation and good wishes to the first Hispanic American elected to the United States Congress, Henry B. Gonzalez. (Applause.) He has been an irrepressible force for progress. He is an irreplaceable legislator. It has been my great honor to know him for 25 years, long before I ever dreamed I'd be here, and I'm quite sure long before he ever dreamed I would be here. (Laughter.) But we wish him well, and we'll miss him.

Together, we have begun to prepare our beloved country for the 21st century. Tonight, I want to take just a few moments of your time to talk about the work ahead and the responsibility we have to support each other in that work. It's been nearly six years now since I announced my candidacy for President. Many of you started with me, almost all of you finished with me, and we have begun a journey -- to restore the American Dream to everyone willing to work for it, to make America the world's greatest force for peace and freedom well into the next century and to go forward into that new century in spite of all of our diversity as one America.

We began with a bold, new economic course which reduced our deficit 80 percent before the recent budget passed -- (applause) -- for all of you who voted for that, I hope that you're out there clapping to yourselves, because you deserve it. We expanded our exports with over 200 trade agreements. We invested in our people and their future. We took on the tough social problems at home and the tough foreign policy problems around the world.

Today, the American people are reaping the results of these last years of effort. Unemployment below 5 percent, Hispanic unemployment dropping from over 11 percent to about 7 percent, a drop of over 35 percent. (Applause.) Record rates of small business growth with Hispanic American businesses growing at three times the rate of overall business growth, and hundreds of thousands of new Latino homes in this country. (Applause.)

Violent crime has dropped five years in a row. We've had the largest drop in welfare rolls in history. All this signals progress. We should be optimistic, we should be hopeful, we should be confident. But we all know we have more to do before every one of our people, every one of your people and every one of the American people will be prepared to do well in the 21st century.

The first thing we have to do is to continue to expand and improve educational opportunity. I am proud that the budget I just signed represents the largest single increased investment in education since 1965. (Applause.) I fought hard to ensure that it included a 36 percent increase in funding for bilingual and immigrant education. (Applause.) To see that it expands Head Start, it funds our America Reads program to mobilize up to 1 million volunteer tutors to make sure our children can read well at an early age. It will help us to develop voluntary tests in reading and math, to help children learn the basic skills they need to succeed. Not to put them down, but to lift them up.

It also opens the doors of college to all Americans for the first time in history with the biggest increase in support for people going to college since the G.I. Bill passed 50 years ago. (Applause.) There's the largest increase in Pell Grants in more than two decades, a \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship tax credit to open the doors

of the first two years of college to all Americans, and further tax credits for all higher education for people of all ages, because we know we have to have a system of lifetime learning in America, and we should support that for people of all ages. (Applause.)

Despite a strong work ethic and falling unemployment, however, despite exploding numbers of new Hispanic-owned businesses, Hispanic family income is not yet rising. And one of the biggest reasons for this disparity in income is that too many young Latinos continue to drop out of school. The dropout rate for Hispanic American remains far above the rates for whites or African Americans. Many of these young people leave school for responsible reasons -- to begin to help their families by working. But, increasingly, in a global economy, we must teach our children that responsibility means staying in school and going the whole route. (Applause.)

We have organized an intense effort in the White House to address the dropout problem of Hispanic American students. I instructed Gene Sperling, the head of the National Economic Council, Maria Echaveste, who heads our Office of Public Liaison, Mickey Ibarra, who heads our Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and our Education Secretary, Dick Riley, to evaluate all of our current programs and identify what more we can do right now to help young Latinos reach their potential.

I am pleased that Senator Bingaman and Representative Hinojosa will soon introduce the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1997 to establish a coordinated national strategy for lower dropout rates for Hispanics and others who should have their dropout rates lower. I want to ask you to help us with this. We need your support. (Applause.)

Let me also say, in the context of education, that balanced budget agreement just set a framework for the next two years. Every single year we have to make sure that the congressional appropriations are faithful to the agreement. And I ask your support in helping us and helping the members of Congress make sure that those investments are there.

And in that connection, let me tell you, I at least, and I think most of you, are quite concerned by the recent, very narrow decision in the Senate to support the Gorton amendment that would block-grant virtually all federal education funds to the states. That's a step in the wrong direction, because whatever its intent, the effect of the amendment is to shift funds away from the schools that serve our neediest children. And unless we can persuade them to change, I will not hesitate to use my veto power to prevent that hasty decision from becoming the law of the land. (Applause.)

Let me also say that that budget did one more thing that I want to emphasize -- it did a lot of good things, including providing health insurance for up to 5 million American children, many of whom will be Hispanic children and the children of hard-working people who work all day every day, but can't get health insurance at work. (Applause.) It also kept a promise I made last year to restore benefits to legal immigrants who come to this country legally, work hard, and contribute to our society. (Applause.) And I thank the members of Congress who are here who made that possible. (Applause.)

The second thing we have to do is to sell more of our goods and services around the world. We have 4 percent of the world's population, 20 percent of the world's income, 96 percent of the world's consumers live somewhere else. The growing developing economies are growing at three times the rate of our European and other traditional trading partners. We have no choice but to compete

for those new markets.

Indeed, 70 percent of our export growth this year comes from our neighbors -- Canada to the north, and all the other neighbors are to our south; Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, South America -- 70 percent of our growth is there. Now, the legislation I sent to Congress today to renew the President's traditional authority to negotiate trade agreements, to open markets to our products and create good jobs, contains important provisions that will enable me to negotiate to protect both worker rights and the environment. And it will involve Congress every step of the way.

But I say again, it is in our interest to open these markets. Week after week, I read of these European leaders going to South America, saying, America doesn't care about Latin America; Europe cares about Latin America. America is sitting up there sitting on its gain. We want you to be allied with Europe.

I say, they are our friends; I have worked hard to establish a good relationship, and I think we should go forward with fair, balanced trading agreements that will help our economy and help our relations. (Applause.)

I want to say a special word of thanks to Congressman Becerra and his allies in the Hispanic Caucus for the contributions that they made when I last went to Latin America several months ago, when I went to Mexico and Central America and to the Caribbean. Congressman Becerra and Congressman Reyes went with me -- Congressman Romero-Barcelo joined us in the Caribbean.

In a few weeks, I'll be going for a week's visit in Brazil and Argentina and Venezuela, and I'm looking forward to working with you, Congressman Becerra and with the Caucus to make this productive for America, as well. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Let me make one other comment now about the last thing that I think we have to do. Our journey into tomorrow is about more than economics. It's about the kind of people we are and how we relate to each other. It's about whether we can really learn to not only tolerate each other, not even just to respect each other, but to celebrate the fact that people who are so different share this land together and want to share its future together and deserve to share its future together because we are bound together by common values -- by faith and family and work and community and service to country.

Now, in order to do that, we have to face some facts. The first fact is that we still have some unfinished business in this country, some discrimination that we have not resolved -- it still exists. The second fact is that all those people that want to get rid of affirmative action carry a heavier burden than they have yet borne to show about what they were going to do to replace it, to guarantee everybody has an equal opportunity. (Applause.)

The third thing we have to do is to treat each other respectfully and honestly in all of our dealings, particularly in putting together our political system. So in that connection, let me just make one comment more about the census coming up in 2000 and the whole issue of sampling. My sole goal is to have the most accurate count of Americans. I have no other political agenda. I have never been involved in this in any way, shape or form. Every expert who has reviewed the census process, including a recent report from the National Science Foundation, said that the sampling method the Census Bureau proposes to use in the year 2000 is designed to count hard-to-find Americans, including the homeless and some minorities,

not to leave them out. We are not interested in counting people who do not live here and do not exist, but we want to make sure, finally, that everybody who is here is counted in the census of the American people in the year 2000. (Applause.)

If we're going to be one America, we have to make sure our immigration laws are fair and humane to all. (Applause.) To that effort, we have undertaken two initiatives I want to mention briefly. First, we're seeking to extend the legal authority that permits people to obtain permanent immigration status without having to leave our country, often leaving their families and their jobs behind. (Applause.) And, second, we're working to enable some Central Americans and others who have already made lives for themselves here in the United States to be considered for permanent status under less stringent rules in place prior to the passage of the recent immigration bill. (Applause.)

But the most important thing we can do is to really make up our minds that we're going to share the future together. The reason that I organized this national conversation on race for the next year and had an advisory board constituted, including Linda Chavez-Thompson, who is well-known to many of you, is that it bothers me that so few Americans have really thought about what this country is going to be like in 20 or 30 or 40 years.

Within five years, our largest state, California, will have no majority race. Hawaii already has no majority race. (Applause.) Hispanic Americans are the fastest-growing American minority, but within a matter of decades, we'll all be members of some racial or ethnic minority.

Now, people have said for years -- maybe for over 200 years, maybe going all the way back to the beginning -- that America is not a place, a nation that is about a particular religious creed or a particular race or even a particular place; America is just a set of ideas. We are about to find out. (Applause.) We are about to find out.

And so I say to all of you, when I come here and I feel your energy, your spirit, your patriotism, your dreams, your affection for each other and for your country, that is what I want every American to feel. And that's what I want you to be able to feel about every other American. And we have a heavy responsibility here. No other great democracy like ours has ever been so diverse, and yet people living together so closely. No one has ever tried to do this. We are trying to do this against the backdrop of reading in the last several years about all of the problems, from the Middle East to Bosnia, to Northern Ireland, to Africa, to you name it.

We say to the bottom of our soul, we don't believe in any of that. We don't seek, any of us, to lift ourselves up by putting someone else down. We are simply trying to create a country where everybody's responsible, has opportunity, where we're drawn together more closely every day, and where we're still trying to promote what we believe in around the world.

You, as the fastest growing group of America, have a special responsibility to make sure that message pierces the mind and heart of every one of your fellow citizens, because if it does, we'll take care of the economics, we'll take care of the other work we have to do. If we can get our hearts right and our heads straight about how we're going to do this together, we will get to the next century with this country still the greatest nation in human history.

Thank you and God bless you.

END

8:33 P.M. EDT

Draft 09/19/00 4:30pm
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR NATIONAL HISPANIC ARTS FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, DC
September 19, 2000**

Ack: Maria Echaveste, my Deputy Chief of Staff. Brian Barretto (Office of Public Liaison). I want to thank Jimmy Smits and the entire membership of the National Hispanic Arts Foundation for your uncommon leadership in expanding opportunity in the arts. From the silver screen to the Broadway Stage, your efforts have opened doors for scores of talented Hispanics.

- **Your work, and the support of the Hispanic community, have been instrumental to the success of our administration.** For that, Vice President Gore and I owe you a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid in words alone.
- So that's why I'm here this evening: to say thank you for all you do for the arts and for the Hispanic community – and to take a moment to recount just how far we've come since 1993.

We now have the **lowest Hispanic unemployment** rate in history; **the lowest Hispanic poverty** rate in a generation, and a **million new Hispanic homeowners** since 1994.

We doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit, so that it now lifts 1.2 million Hispanics out of poverty.

We raised the minimum wage – directly benefiting 1.6 million Hispanic workers – and it's time we raised it again.

We nearly doubled our investment in education and training. We also enacted the Hispanic Education Action Plan to encourage Hispanic youth to stay in school and go to college.

We appointed more Hispanics to the federal bench than any administration in history. But too many of our minority nominees are still waiting for Senate confirmation.

Under the VP's leadership, we have **reduced the naturalization backlog at INS**, by streamlining the naturalization process to make it easier for immigrants, who play by the rules, to become full partners in America.

We increased the number of **Small Business Administration loans** to Hispanic entrepreneurs by 250 percent.

- **The more diverse our nation becomes, the richer we are in talent, energy and ideas.** The public these days can't seem to get enough of the vitality and sheer joy of Hispanic art and culture – from the CDs of Ricky Martin and Jennifer Lopez ... to the books of Susan Cisneros and Oscar Hijuelos [e-WELL-os].
- But as you know, while we've come a long way, **too many Latinos are still being shut from the world of art and entertainment.** Studies show that Latino characters account for only 3 percent of the total prime time television population. And only two-thirds of all Latino characters on TV are male.
- **We all need to remember that in this increasingly interconnected world, our diversity is our greatest strength.** As long as we honor our common values and common humanity, we can build the One America of our dreams.
- Thank you and God Bless you.

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

POTUS Remarks

Divider Title: _____

5. **Education**
6. **China/ PNTR**
7. **Guns** – we must pass common sense gun legislation.

- **1992 Roadmap. Today we have Results.** opportunity, responsibility, community
- **Longest economic expansion in history.** 22M new jobs. \$290B def⇒\$167B surp. Debt Elimin 2013 (1835/ Jackson). Lwst unempl 30 yrs (7.3%⇒4.1%). Lwst poverty 20 yrs. Lwst Af-Am/Hispanic unempl on record. 1st Back to back bud supr 42 yr.
- **Revival American spirit:** 25 yr crime, 30-Welf (cut in ½); Adoptions up 30%, highest immun.

Big Challenges -- Take Long Look Ahead:

• **Strengthen Families**

Child care; PBOR; FMLA -- extend to 12M; Equal Pay. Fatherhood (child suppt). CHIP (2 M) ⇒ Now parents. Medicare buy-in (55-65). LTC (\$1K-\$3K). Census.

• **21st Century Economy**

New Markets--invest. Rural, inner-city, Nat-Am. EITC. Digital divide. Expand Trade -- freer & fairer trade.

• **21st Century Schools**

Double Head Start. 100K new tchrs. School modern (6K). Summer school & after school. Turn around failing schools; trained teachers. College opp: HOPE, Pell, work-study. \$30B college oppt tax cut. Computers in Classrooms. Gear-Up. Charter schools.

• **Safest Big Country in World.**

100K cops. 50K more. Guns: Brady. Gun licensing. Enforcement. Drug testing prisoners/parolees. Voluntary Ratings.

• **Protect Enviro.** Lands Legacy endowment; Livability (open spaces, advanced transit system). Global Warming.

• **Science and Technology.** Genome. Internet (50⇒5B websites) \$3B incr. 21st C. Research Fund. Medical & financial privacy.

• **Globalization.** WTO/China: Protect enviro/child labor. Peace Mid East, Ireland.

• **One America-** AmeriCorps. Hate Crimes/ENDA. 99% same.

Message Sent To:

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Draft 09/19/00 4:30pm
Josh Gottheimer

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We doubled the Earned Income Tax Credit, so that it now lifts 1.2 million Hispanics out of poverty.

We raised the minimum wage – directly benefiting 1.6 million Hispanic workers – and it's time we raised it again.

We nearly doubled our investment in education and training. We also enacted the Hispanic Education Action Plan to encourage Hispanic youth to stay in school and go to college.

We appointed more Hispanics to the federal bench than any administration in history. But too many of our minority nominees are still waiting for Senate confirmation.

Under the VP's leadership, we have **reduced the naturalization backlog at INS**, by streamlining the naturalization process to make it easier for immigrants, who play by the rules, to become full partners in America.

We increased the number of **Small Business Administration loans** to Hispanic entrepreneurs by 250 percent.

- **The more diverse our nation becomes, the richer we are in talent, energy and ideas.** The public these days can't seem to get enough of the vitality and sheer joy of Hispanic art and culture – from the CDs of Ricky Martin and Jennifer Lopez ... to the books of Susan Cisneros and Oscar Hijuelos [e-WELL-os].
- But as you know, while we've come a long way, **too many Latinos are still being shut from the world of art and entertainment.** Studies show that Latino characters account for only 3 percent of the total prime time television population. And only two-thirds of all Latino characters on TV are male.
- **We all need to remember that in this increasingly interconnected world, our diversity is our greatest strength.** As long as we honor our common values and common humanity, we can build the One America of our dreams.
- Thank you and God Bless you.

Final 09/19/00 4:30pm
Josh Gottheimer

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR NATIONAL HISPANIC ARTS FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, DC
September 19, 2000

*Wickley
Shanna*

your honor
Ack: Maria Echaveste, my Deputy Chief of Staff. Brian Barretto (Office of Public Liaison). I'd like to congratulate Sara Martinez Tucker and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund for ~~tonight's honor~~ and for twenty-five years of service to the Hispanic Community.

I want to thank Jimmy Smits, Felix Sanchez (President of the Foundation), and the entire membership of the National Hispanic Arts Foundation for your uncommon leadership in expanding opportunity in the arts. From the silver screen to the Broadway Stage, your efforts have opened doors for scores of talented Hispanics.

- **Your work, and the support of the Hispanic community, have been instrumental to the success of our administration.** For that, Vice President Gore and I owe you a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid in words alone.
- So that's why I'm here this evening: to say thank you for all you do for the arts and for the Hispanic community – and to take a moment to recount just how far we've come since 1993.

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Under the VP's leadership, we have **reduced the naturalization backlog at INS**, by streamlining the naturalization process to make it easier for immigrants, who play by the rules, to become full partners in America.

We increased the number of **Small Business Administration loans** to Hispanic entrepreneurs by 250 percent.

But we need to keep working in our other pressing priorities – pass a strong and enforceable **patients bill of rights**, modernize **Medicare** with a **prescription drug** benefit, improve **education**, pass **hate crimes** legislation, and raise the **minimum wage**.

- **The more diverse our nation becomes, the richer we are in talent, energy and ideas.** The public these days can't seem to get enough of the vitality and sheer joy of Hispanic art and culture – from the CDs of Ricky Martin and Jennifer Lopez ... to the books of Susan Cisneros and Oscar Hijuelos [e-WELL-os].
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- **We all need to remember that in this increasingly interconnected world, our diversity is our greatest strength.** As long as we honor our common values and common humanity, we can build the One America of our dreams.
- Thank you and God Bless you.

September 19, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR TERRY EDMONDS

FROM: MARA SILVER

RE: MORNING SCHEDULE

1. Good morning.
2. ***Schedule Today:*** 7:45 am – Communications mtg; 8:00 am – Senior Staff mtg; 9:00 am – Van for HBCU Event (W. Basement)
3. ***POTUS Today:*** 10:15 am – Briefing: Long-Term Care (Oval); 10:40 am – Long-Term Care (Rose Garden); 11:55 am – Fundraiser; 1:00 – 4:00 pm – Phone and Office; 7:45 pm – Speak Truth to Power
4. *Phone and Office Time Today:* 1:00 – 4:00 pm
5. *Speech Calendar:* See Attached

Joshua S. Gottheimer
09/18/2000 12:20:09 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

CC:

Subject: updated sw sked

**WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF SPEECHWRITING
SPEECH ASSIGNMENTS
September 19 – September 26, 2000**

Tues 9/19	Fundraisers	Josh
Tues 9/19	T: PNTR Bill Signing	Heather
Tues 9/19	Message Event (LTC)	John
Wed 9/20	COGIC	Sam
Wed 9/20	Fundraiser	Josh
Wed 9/20	CHC	Paul
Thru 9/21	Dep Stmt – Lands Legacy	Terry
Thur 9/21	Digital Divide	Josh
Fri 9/22	Fundraiser	Josh
Fri 9/22	Webcast (first.gov)	Paul
Fri 9/22	Radio Address	John
Fri 9/22	State Dept Dedication	Heather/ NSC
Sat 9/23	Fundraisers	Josh
Sun 9/24	Fundraisers	Josh
Sun 9/24	LCV	Jeff
Mon 9/25	Fundraisers	Josh
Tues 9/26	Georgetown Law Event	TBD

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

**SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2000
*Final Schedule***

9:00 am-
10:00 am

HOLD (NH)

10:00 am-
10:15 am

MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: John Podesta

10:15 am-
10:25 am

BRIEFING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Charles Brain, Chris Jennings

Note: In case of inclement weather, the President will proceed to Presidential Hall, Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building at 10:20 A.M.

10:25 am-
10:35 am

MEET AND GREET
OVAL OFFICE (RAIN SITE: HALLWAY)
Staff Contact: Charles Brain, Chris Jennings
Event Coordinator: Laura Schwartz
CLOSED PRESS

Note: There will be approximately 14 guests in attendance.

10:40 am-
11:20 am

LONG-TERM CARE SECURITY ACT SIGNING CEREMONY
ROSE GARDEN (RAIN SITE: PRESIDENTIAL HALL)
Remarks: John Pollack
Staff Contact: Charles Brain, Chris Jennings
Event Coordinator: Laura Schwartz
OPEN PRESS

Note: There will be approximately 130 guests in attendance.

-- Off-stage announcement of **the President**, accompanied by Janice LaChance and Joan Madaras.

-- Janice LaChance, Director, OPM makes brief remarks and introduces Joan Madaras.

-- Joan Madaras makes brief remarks and introduces **the President**.

-- **The President** makes remarks and departs.

September 18, 2000 (7:44 PM)

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

11:25 am **THE PRESIDENT** departs The White House via motorcade en route St. Regis Hotel
[drive time: 5 minutes]

11:30 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives St. Regis Hotel

Greeters: State Attorney General Heitkamp
Senator Kent Conrad
Senator Byron Dorgan (T)
Representative Earl Pomeroy (T)

11:35 am- **PHOTO RECEIVING LINE**

11:50 am STATE SALON

St. Regis Hotel

Staff Contact: Minyon Moore

Event Coordinator: Sarah Rozensky

CLOSED PRESS

Note: There will be approximately 30-35 guests in attendance.

11:55 am-
12:50 pm

HEITKAMP LUNCH

CRYSTAL BALLROOM

St. Regis Hotel

Remarks: Josh Gottheimer

Staff Contact: Minyon Moore

Event Coordinator: Sarah Rozensky

POOL PRESS

Note: There will be approximately 100 guests in attendance.

-- **The President** proceeds to his seat.

-- Lunch is served

12:10 pm -- Senator Kent Conrad makes brief remarks and introduces State Attorney General Heidi Heitkamp.

-- State Attorney General Heidi Heitkamp makes brief remarks and introduces **the President**.

-- **The President** makes remarks, works a ropeline and departs.

12:55 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs St. Regis Hotel via motorcade en route The White House
[drive time: 5 minutes]

1:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives The White House

September 18, 2000 (7:44 PM)

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

1:00 pm- **PHONE AND OFFICE TIME**
3:00 pm **OVAL OFFICE**

3:00 pm- **HOLD**
4:00 pm

4:00 pm- **CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS MEETING**
5:00 pm **CABINET ROOM**
Staff Contact: Charles Brain
WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY

5:15 pm- **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB YOUTH OF THE YEAR PHOTO**
5:25 pm **OPPORTUNITY**
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Mary Beth Cahill
WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY

Note: There will be approximately 13 guests in attendance.

5:30 pm- **MEETING**
6:30 pm **OVAL OFFICE**
Staff Contact: John Podesta, Samuel Berger

6:30 pm- **DOWN TIME**
7:05 pm **RESIDENCE**

7:05 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs The White House via motorcade en route Kennedy Center
[drive time: 5 minutes]

7:10 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Kennedy Center

Greeters: Secretary Andrew Cuomo
Karry Kennedy Cuomo, Event Host

7:15 pm- **PHOTO RECEIVING LINE**
7:40 pm **GREEN ROOM**
Kennedy Center
Staff Contact: Mary Beth Cahill
Event Coordinator: Stephen Lamb
WETA CAMERA AND WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY (AT THE TOP)

Note: There will be approximately 80 guests in attendance.

September 18, 2000 (7:44 PM)

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Tuesday, September 19, 2000

7:45 pm-
8:10 pm

**REMARKS AT KENNEDY CENTER "SPEAK TRUTH TO POWER"
PERFORMANCE
EISENHOWER THEATER
Kennedy Center
Staff Contact: Mary Beth Cahill
Event Coordinator: Stephen Lamb
POOL PRESS**

Note: There will be approximately 900 guests in attendance.

-- Dr. Oscar Arias Sanchez, Nobel Laureate introduces Karry Kennedy Cuomo onto stage.

-- Karry Kennedy Cuomo makes brief remarks and introduces **the President** onto stage.

-- **The President** makes remarks and departs.

Note: After the President departs, the performance will begin.

8:15 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs Kennedy Center via motorcade en route The White House
[drive time: 5 minutes]

8:20 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives The White House

BC RON

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

HRC RON

CHAPPAQUA, NEW YORK

September 18, 2000 (7:44 PM)

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Draft 09/19/00 4pm
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR NATIONAL HISPANIC ARTS FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, DC
September 19, 2000**

Ack: Maria Echaveste, my Deputy Chief of Staff. Brian Barretto (Office of Public Liaison). I want to thank Jimmy Smits and the entire membership of the National Hispanic Arts Foundation for your uncommon leadership in expanding opportunity in the arts. From the silver screen to the Broadway Stage, your work has opened doors for scores of talented Hispanics.

- **Your work, and the support of the Hispanic community, have been instrumental to the success of our administration.** For that, Vice President Gore and I owe you a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid in words alone.
- So that's why I'm here this evening: to say thank you for all you do for the arts and for the Hispanic community – and to take a moment to recount just how far we've come since 1993.

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- **The more diverse our nation becomes, the richer we are in talent, energy and ideas.** The public these days can't seem to get enough of the vitality and sheer joy of Hispanic art and culture – from the CDs of Ricky Martin and Jennifer Lopez ... to the books of Susan Cisneros and Oscar Hijuelos [e-WELL-os].
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- **We all need to remember that in this increasingly interconnected world, our diversity is our greatest strength.** As long as we honor our common values and common humanity, we can build the One America of our dreams.
- Thank you and God Bless you.

“The arts cannot thrive except where men are free to be themselves and to be in charge of the discipline of their own energies and ardors. The conditions for democracy and art are one.

- FDR, dedication of the Museum of Modern Art, NYC

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Policy

Divider Title: _____



Mission Statement

"Creating Opportunities, Rewarding Excellence"

The National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts was created in 1997 to advance the presence of Latinos in the media telecommunications and entertainment industries. The Foundation has concentrated in increasing access for Hispanic artists and professionals while fostering the emergence of new Hispanic talent.

The Hispanic community--which makes up 12 percent of the U.S. population and will soon become the nation's largest ethnic minority group--increasingly is recognized for its potentially enormous consumer and political power. Yet the entertainment industry has failed to acknowledge the size and impact of an audience that is 34 million strong.

Paradoxically, while the entertainment industry and its advertisers tap into the Hispanic community's resources, its programming ignores or distorts Hispanic culture and offers children limited, stereotypical and generally negative role models. This omission deprives an entire community of a source of cultural pride and reality and the country-at-large of a true picture of the American mosaic, thus deepening the racial and ethnic rifts that divide us.

The Foundation's mission has two principal goals:

- to offer graduate scholarships at prominent colleges and universities; and
- to expand career opportunities for existing talent in all aspects of entertainment and the performing arts.

The Foundation is the initiative of actors Jimmy Smits, Sonia Braga, Esai Morales and Washington, D.C. attorney, Felix Sanchez. NHFA embraces a big tent philosophy and works closely with the White House, the U.S. Congress, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Federal Communications Commission.

Noche de Gala

**6:30 O'Clock
VIP Reception**

Generación ñ Celebrities

Paulo Benedeti
Alexis Cruz
Richard Lima
Kamar de Los Reyes
Carmen More
Constance Marie

Dahlia Victoria
Nicholas Gonzales
Diego Serrano
Jose Solano
Marcio Rosario
Santiago Douglas

Honored Guests

Michael DeLorenzo

Honorable Robert Menendez
Vice Chair, Democratic Caucus

7:30 O'Clock Dinner Seating / Welcome

Felix R. Sanchez
NHFA President and Co-Founder

The Honorable Alexis M. Herman
U.S. Secretary of Labor

8:30 O'Clock Program

Speakers

Merel Julia
Jon Seda
Sonia Braga
Oscar de la Hoya
Jimmy Smits

Scholarship Recipient Address

Alexis Cruz
CBS/Showtime

Yvonne Rodriguez-Green
UCLA

2000 Raul Julia Award for Excellence
Accepting for the *Hispanic Scholarship Fund*

Sara Martinez Tucker
President & CEO

*Miguel: really for
ella glad
many/
much y →*

Special Guest
The Honorable Norman Mineta
U.S. Secretary of Commerce

Entertainment

Carlos Ponce

Cristina Vidal

2000-2001 Scholarship Recipients

Columbia University

Elesha M. Miranda
Joshua G. Sanchez
Amalia Zarranz
Victorino F. Cervantes
Alvaro Celaya-Fernandez
James Canon
Luisa G. Dantas
Janis Astor
Miguel Rivera
Irma Noemi Martinez Cress
Russell N. Contreras

New York University

Alexandra K. Kondracke
Juan Castilo
Eric J. Loo
Jesus J. Villarreal
Yvette Marie Pita
Rafael Del Toro
Robert L. James
Aurora M. Agüero
Martin T. Lopez
Marisa N. Cheerio
Carlos A. Dorian
Roxanne Haddam

University of Texas at Austin

Henry R. Puente
Bianca N. Ambriz

Yale University

Jeanine Serralles
Adriana Gaviria
Juan Carlos Salinas
Roberto F. Aguirre-Sacasa
Ramon J. Wodkowski

University of California

At Los Angeles

Adelina Anthony
Yvonne Rodriguez-Green
Maria E. Munoz
Alberto Barboza
Victor Trevino
David R. Ruiz
Victoria M. Irigoyen
Steven A. D'Ambrose
Yolanda Cruz
Jaime Pelayo
Milsa F. Watson
Judy L. Bernardino
Guillermo A. Arcila
Luis I. Marquez
Alegre N. Ramos

University of Southern California

Frances K. Mejia
Fernando Alessandri
Carlos Noriega

2000 Advisory Council

Luis Avalos

Ruben Blades

Rita Braver & Robert Barnett

Sonia Braga

Benjamin Bratt

William and Buffy Cafritz

Gery Chico

Henry & Mary Alice Cisneros

Esther Coopersmith

Bill Cosby

Wanda De Jesus

Michael DeLorenzo

Hector Elizondo

Gloria Estefan

Giselle Fernandez

Nely Galan

Andy Garcia

Salma Hayek

Ann Jordan

Ethel Kennedy

Sharon Lawrence

Jennifer Lopez

Ricardo Montalban

Esai Morales

Fiona Niven

Rosie O'Donnell

Edward James Olmos

General Colin L. Powell, U.S.A. Ret.

Paul Rodriguez

Arturo Sandoval

Jon Secada

Jon Seda

Charlie Sheen

Martin Sheen

Jimmy Smits

George Stephanopolous

John J. Sweeney

Liz Torres

Solomon Trujillo

Luis Valdez

Jack Valenti

Elizabeth Vargas

Jose Villarreal

Wendy Wasserstein



And . . .

Honorable Aida Alvarez

Honorable Xavier Becerra

Honorable Barbara Boxer

Honorable Tom Daschle

Honorable Richard A. Gephardt

Honorable Alexis M. Herman

Honorable Trent Lott

Honorable John McCain

Honorable Solomon Ortiz

Honorable Ed Pastor

Honorable Bill Richardson

Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard

Honorable Donna B. Shalala

Honorable Rodney E. Slater

Honorable Esteban Torres

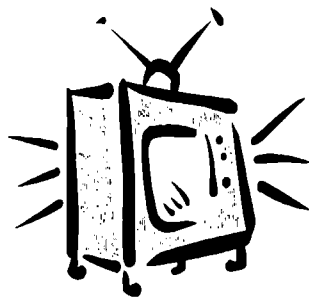
Honorable Nydia Velazquez

Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa

Honorable Christine Todd Whitman



LATINOWOOD AND TV: PRIME TIME FOR A REALITY CHECK



**Children Now
National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
September 2000**



NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 12:01 A.M., SEPT. 13, 2000

Contact: **Felix Sanchez or Sarah Ahern**
Phone: **202 293-8330**
Fax: **202 965-5252**

Study Finds Only 3% of Prime Time Characters are Latino; Calls for "Reality Check" in Network Programming

September 13, 2000, Washington, DC. Latino characters are still significantly under represented, and misrepresented, in prime time television programming, according to a new report released today by Children Now and the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts (NHFA). The study, "Latinowood and TV: Prime Time for a Reality Check," is intended to provide a "baseline on Latino representation in front of the camera" by which to measure future progress toward a more balanced, realistic depiction of the Latino community in network programming.

"We are presenting the networks with an independent analysis so that we can work together to assess legitimate progress, illustrate best practices and strategize on how to overcome obstacles that prevent us from reaching our diversity goals," said Felix Sanchez, president and co-founder of NHFA.

The analysis looked at 1,477 television characters in the 1999-2000 season. Of these, only 41, or 3%, were Latino. The disparity is especially apparent in the casts of shows set in major cities, and among youth and women. Further, Latino roles are often "filled with sometimes subtle and sometimes blatant stereotypes ... Latino characters are more likely to play a maid or janitor than boss or police officer."

Such lack of diversity has far-reaching consequences, says the study. "Never before in the history of American entertainment has so much Latino talent been waiting in the wings — a virtual 'Latinowood,' as more and more young Latinos pursue careers in film and television." Yet, this "wealth of existing and emerging Latino talent ... is being overlooked, a significant percentage of the population does not see itself reflected in the mass entertainment culture, and all of us are deprived of the benefits."

Nor does the reality network programming match the reality of demographic trends, said Sanchez. Latinos are the fastest-growing minority group in the United States and represent an increasing share of the television audience. According to the report, the number of Latinos in TV households increased 27% from 1993 to 1999 — from 22.2

--more--

PRIME TIME AND LATINOS

2-2-2

million to 28.3 million, and Latino households watch on average 4 hours more television per week than non-Latino households do.

Despite the report's findings, Sanchez says that NHFA is optimistic about the future of television programming, as Latino, Native, Asian and African American organizations continue to work in strong coordination with the networks to develop greater diversity, "both in front of and behind the camera."

Children Now, founded in 1988, is a nonpartisan, independent voice for children, working to translate the nation's commitment to children and families into action. The group is nationally recognized for its policy experts and up-to-date information on the status of children. Children Now uses communications strategies to reach parents, lawmakers, citizens and community leaders, creating attention and generating positive change on behalf of children.

The National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts was created in 1997 to advance the presence of Latinos in the media, telecommunications and entertainment industries. Since then, NHFA has focused on increasing access for Hispanic artists and professionals while fostering the emergence of new Hispanic talent. Its mission is to provide graduate school students with scholarships while creating additional opportunities for existing talent. NHFA works with the White House, the U.S. Congress, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Federal Communications Commission, and a variety of other public and private organizations to meet its goals.

From the Diplomatic Corp:

First Lady of Ecuador, Maria Isabel De Noboa

Amb. Yvonne A-Baki, Ecuador

Amb. Luis Moreno, Columbia

Amb. Jaime Darenblum, Costa Rica

Amb. Ariel Rivera, Guatemala

Amb. Jesus Reyes-Heroles, Mexico

Amb. Javier Ruperz, Spain

Amb. Alfredo Toro Hardy, Venezuela

From the Administration:

Honorable Alexis Herman, Secretary of Labor

Honorable Norman Mineta, Secretary of Commerce

Honorable Aida Alvarez, SBA Administrator

Honorable George Muñoz, President Overseas Private Investment Corporation

Honorable Louis Caldera, Secretary of the Navy

Honorable Bob Mallet, Deputy Secretary of Commerce

Honorable Maria Echaveste, Deputy Chief of Staff to the President

Honorable Mickey Ibarra, Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs

Honorable Ida Castro, Chair EEOC

Honorable Francisco Sanchez, DOT

Honorable Gil Coronado, Selective Service

Honorable Norma Cantu, HHS

Ms. Carmen Lomelin, OAS

Mr. Courtland Cox, Director MBDA

From the Presidential Campaigns:

Ana Garmonal, Bush Campaign

Janet Murgia, Gore Campaign

Jose Villarreal, Gore Campaign

From the Congress:

Sen. Jeff Bingaman

Sen. Mary Landrieu

Sen. Harry Reid

Rep. Mary Bono

Rep. Bob Menendez

Rep. Ed Pastor

Rep. Xavier Becerra

Rep. Ruben Hinojosa
Rep. Solomon Ortiz
Rep. Loretta Sanchez
Rep. Silvestre Reyes
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
Del. Bob Underwood
Del. Carlos Romero Barcelo

From the Community:

Raul Yzaguire, President of NCLR
Guarione Diaz, President of Cuban American National Council
Former President of LULAC, Belen Robles
Former Surgeon General Antonia Novello

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Nat. Hispanic Arts Foundation

Divider Title: _____



National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts

Mission Statement

"Creating Opportunities, Rewarding Excellence"

The National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts (NHFA) was created in 1997 to promote Hispanic talent in the performing arts. The Foundation's mission is to increase access for Hispanic artists and professionals while fostering the emergence of new Hispanic talent.

The Hispanic community--which makes up 10 percent of the U.S. population and will soon become the nation's largest ethnic minority group--increasingly is recognized for its potentially enormous consumer and political power. Yet the entertainment industry has failed to acknowledge the size and impact of an audience that is 30 million strong.

Paradoxically, while the entertainment industry and its advertisers tap into the Hispanic community's resources, its programming ignores or distorts Hispanic culture and offers children limited, stereotypical and generally negative role models. This omission deprives an entire community of a source of cultural pride and reality and the country-at-large of a true picture of the American mosaic, thus deepening the racial and ethnic rifts that divide us.

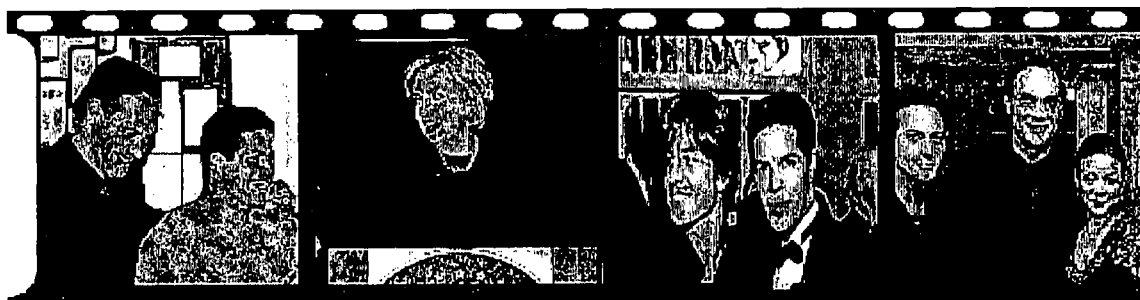
The Foundation's mission has two principal goals:

- to offer graduate scholarships and cash grants at prominent colleges and universities; and
- to expand career opportunities for existing talent in all aspects of entertainment and the performing arts.

The Foundation is the brainchild of actors Jimmy Smits, Esai Morales and Sonia Braga and Washington attorney Felix Sanchez. The NHFA embraces a big tent philosophy and works closely with the White House, the President's Initiative on Race, the U.S. Congress, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Federal Communications Commission.

National Hispanic Foundation

for the Arts



1999 "Noche de Gala" Dinner

Washington D.C. August 1, 1999--Vice President & Mrs. Al Gore will be the featured guests together with Jimmy Smits, Sonia Braga, Esai Morales, Elizabeth Vargas and Giselle Fernandez and a bipartisan group of Capitol Hill lawmakers at the Third Annual "Noche de Gala" benefit dinner. NHFA was created in 1997 to promote Hispanic talent in the performing arts. The Foundation's mission has two principal goals:

- to offer graduate students scholarships and cash grants at prominent colleges and universities; and
- to expand career opportunities for existing talent in all aspects of entertainment.

WHO: Vice President & Mrs. Albert Gore

Jimmy Smits, Sonia Braga, Esai Morales, Elizabeth Vargas
and Giselle Fernandez

Honorable William Kennard
Chair, Federal Communications Commission

Honorable Bob Menendez
Vice Chair, Democratic Caucus

Mr. Massey Villareal
Chair, U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

WHAT: National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
Black Tie Reception and "Noche de Gala" Dinner

WHEN: Monday, September 13, 1999
Reception-6:30 p.m. to 7:30p.m.
Dinner-7:30p.m.

WHERE: The Renaissance Mayflower Hotel
Grand Ballroom
1127 Connecticut Avenue
Washington D.C.

**For Corporate Sponsor information or tickets, please contact the foundation's
office at (202)293-8330.**

National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts

Founders

Sonia Braga

Esai Morales

Jimmy Smits

Co-Founder & President

Felix Sanchez

Advisory Council

Honorable Aida Alvarez
Honorable Xavier Becerra
Ruben Blades
Honorable Barbara Boxer
Rita Braver & Robert Barnett
Sonia Braga
Benjamin Bratt
William & Buffy Cafritz
Gery Chico
Henry & Mary Alice Cisneros
Esther Coopersmith
Bill Cosby
Honorable Tom Daschle
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Gloria Estefan
Giselle Fernandez
Nely Galan
Andy Garcia
Honorable Richard A. Gephardt
Jackie Guerra
Salma Hayek
Honorable Richard A. Herman
Ann Jordan
Ethel Kennedy
Sharon Lawrence
Jennifer Lopez
Honorable Trent Lott

Esai Morales
Fiona Niven
Rosie O'Donnell
Edward James Olmos
Honorable Solomon Ortiz
Honorable Ed Pastor
General Colin L. Powell
Honorable Bill Richardson
Paul Rodriguez
Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
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Honorable Donna E. Shalala
Charlie Sheen
Martin Sheen
Honorable Rodney E. Slater
Jimmy Smits
George Stephanopolous
John J. Sweeney
Honorable Esteban Torres
Liz Torres
Solomon Trujillo
Luis Valdez
Jack Valenti
Elizabeth Vargas
Honorable Nydia Velázquez
Jose Villarreal
Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa

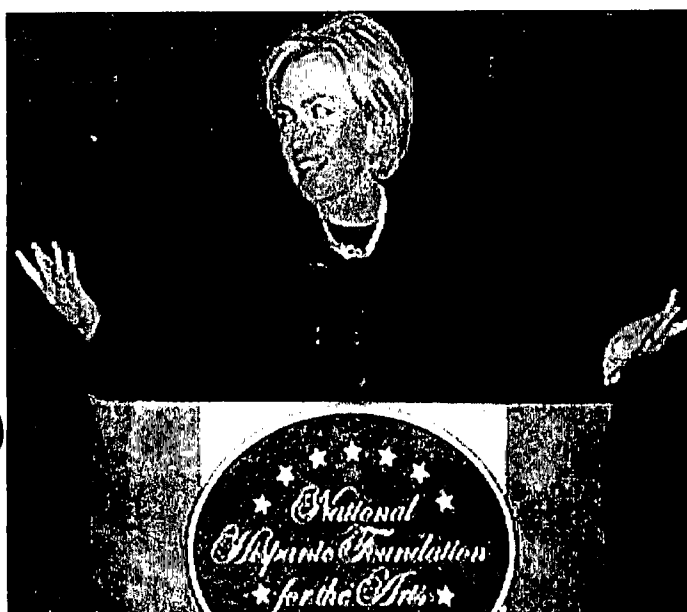


Dario Marquez
Honorable John McCain
Richard Montalban

Wendy Wasserstein
Honorable Christine Todd Whitman

IMAGES

NHFA Celebrates Its Second Year!



First Lady and Other Notables Attend Gala Event

It was a night of excitement and enthusiasm as the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts held its 2nd Annual Noche de Gala benefit September 22, 1998 at the Mayflower

joined NHFA founders Jimmy Smits, Esai Morales and Felix Sanchez and a crowd of Clinton Administration officials, Capitol Hill lawmakers, and entertainment industry representatives to celebrate another year of progress in fostering young Latino talent. Guests included Small Business Administration head Aida Alvarez; Deputy Secretary of

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA); newly elected Caucus Chair Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA); Rep. Solomon Ortiz (D-TX); and Rep. Ed Pastor (D-AZ). White House Administration officials included: Deputy Chief of Staff to the President Maria Echaveste; Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Mickey Ibarra; Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs Janet Murguia; Equal Employment Opportunity Chair Ida Castro; and Director General of the U.S. Foreign and Commercial Service Awilda Marquez. Other luminaries in attendance were Elizabeth Vargas, Antonio Mora and Carole Simpson of ABC News; actor and activist Edward James Olmos, US West Chairman Sol Trujillo; Chicago's Gery Chico, partner at Althemer & Gray Law Offices and Chair of the Chicago Reform School Board; and NHFA Advisory Council member Esther Coopersmith. The event's principle sponsors enjoyed a salon dinner at the home of Esther Coopersmith the evening prior to the Gala. La Gran Desvelada, an after-party at Cities Sponsored by Budweiser, followed the Mayflower event. In remarks at the Gala the First Lady and others praised NHFA's progress over the past year in offering scholarships for Latino

Hotel in Washington DC. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, featured speaker for the second year in a row,

Commerce Robert Mallett; Federal Communications Commissioner Gloria Tristani; House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (MO-D); outgoing Chair of the

in offering scholarships for Latino students and expanding career opportunities for existing entertainment industry talent. Guests also were treated to a performance by musical guest Arturo Sandoval, one of the world's great jazz trumpet and flugelhorn players and a renowned classical artist.

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National Hispanic Foundation

for the Arts



Telemundo's President Nely Galan and CEO Peter Tortorici



Jimmy Smits and Film Director Moctesuma Eparza.



Jimmy Smits and "generacion n" members: Jacqueline Torres, Dahlia Victoria and Kamar de los Reyes.



NHFA Scholarship Recipient and Walt Disney / ABC summer intern Elisa Montoya and Jimmy Smits.



1999 Raul Julia Award Recipient Dick Parsons and Eddie Olmos, Esai Morales, Merel Julia and Jimmy Smits.



Kamar de los Reyes, Alexis Cruz, Edward James Olmos, Elizabeth Vargas and Gloria Tritani (l-r).



NHFA President Felix Sanchez with ABC News Elizabeth Vargas and Antonio Mena



Fox Network star Diego Serrano and NHFA co-founder Esti Morales

Thanks to Noche de Gala Sponsors

We would like to express our gratitude to the following organizations for making the 1998 *Noche de Gala* possible and for helping NHFA continue to make progress in helping talented young Hispanics.

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Warner Music Group

News Elizabeth Vargas and Antonio Mora. Co-founder Esai Morales.

Acknowledgements

NHFA thanks Time Warner Inc. for providing transportation and accommodations for our scholarship program recipients; *People en Español* for hosting an event honoring NHFA in Los Angeles on May 18, 1998; and Davel Limousine Service, Embassy Row Hotel, and The Crown Plaza Hotel for their in-kind contributions.

Warner Music Group

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Telemundo

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NHFA in the Media...

NHFA continues to attract significant media attention, including:



► **Dateline NBC** interviewed Jimmy Smits on his work with NHFA for more Latino talent and themes in the media industries. The interview included highlights of Jimmy Smits' career, including his final scene on ABC's *NYPD Blue*. Also depicted is NHFA Advisory Council Member Wanda de Jesus.

► **Access Hollywood** reported on the 1998 *Noche de Gala* with special guests Hillary Rodham Clinton and NHFA Advisory Council Member U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt (D-MO); and on the humanitarian mission to Puerto Rico led by NHFA co-founders Esai Morales, Jimmy Smits, Felix Sanchez and NHFA Advisory Council Members Jennifer Lopez, Jon Secada, and Carlos Ponce.

► **Hard Copy** interviewed NHFA co-founder Esai Morales, ABC News correspondent Elizabeth Vargas and featured NHFA Advisory Council Member Salma Hayek. The report also focused on the poignant words of support offered by Jimmy Smits to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on behalf of the Latino Community.

► **Extra** provided an in-depth profile on the teamwork of Jimmy Smits and Felix Sanchez to create a political/celebrity access to promote Latinos in the entertainment industry and on the testimony provided by Esai Morales, Sonia Braga and Jimmy Smits before the U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus on the status of "Latinowood." Also featured are NHFA Advisory Council Members U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) and Jose Villareal.

► **America Online** broadcast a world-wide online chat by Jimmy Smits on the rationale for the Foundation and the need to expand Latino images in the media mirror, in conjunction with an e-bay online auction of a 1999 Century by Buick-the proceeds from which benefited the Foundation.

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National Hispanic Foundation

for the Arts

Young Latino Benefit

from NHFA

Scholarships...

The NHFA Entertainment Arts and Industry Scholarship Program enjoyed a sensational first year, awarding 23 students a total of \$80,500-\$23,00 of which was donated by NHFA co-founder Jimmy Smits- for the 1998-99 academic year. The scholarship went to Latino graduate students studying at New York University, Columbia University, Yale University, the University of California at Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California.

The program is designed to help talented young Latinos take the crucial first step on the career ladder and obtain the training and credentials they need to break into the industry. One NHFA scholarship recipient wrote: "I remember Jimmy Smits saying that the Foundation wasn't just about scholarship money, but about creating a network for young filmmakers. That really affected me. As a director and cinematographer, being a Cuban woman is often an isolating reality." The student, Aurora M. Aguero, recently won the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant for one of her screenplays entitled *Winnemucca Jones*.

Graduate students in the following fields, among others, are eligible to compete for the scholarships: Drama/Theatre; Music; Set Design; Film;

1998-99

NHFA Scholarship Recipients

Columbia University

Jorge Gonzalez-Diaz

Ashley Ruth Mendoza

Joel Sanchez

New York University

Aurora Maria Aguero

Angie Cruz

Maria Cristina Fuste

Regina Maria Garcia

Mariajsoe D. Garza

Alexandra Kennedy Kondracke

Felicia Rose Lewin

Osvaldo Plaencia

George Reyes

Rafael Del Toro

Ana Mirem Villamil

University of Souther California

Elisa Diana Montoya

Iana Velez

Premier Club-

Box Office Movement

Announced at Advertising

CEO Roundtable

Hollywood is still missing the boat when it comes to Latino films. The movie capital only makes an average of one Latino film a year - despite overwhelming evidence of a huge Latino moviegoing market and the potential of high profits, especially from films with well-rounded, complex Latino characters.

In February, NHFA and the American Advertising Federation co-sponsored a CEO Advertising Roundtable to promote diversity in broadcast employment and media buys. The roundtable was led by FCC Chairman Bill Kennard. At the meeting, NHFA announced their plans to develop the "Premier Weekend Club," with LA- based *Latin Heat Magazine* and Grindstone Pictures. The club will enlist over one million Latinos to show their support for Latino-themed movies by going to see the films on the first weekend they are released.

"We will ask the Latino community to 'vote their pocketbooks' to impress their economic clout upon media industries," said Jimmy Smits. "Instead of threatening studios and production companies, we are rewarding them for doing the right thing." That means distributing a positive Latino film that meets the Premier Club's standard: A competently made film that presents a more balanced, complicated and updated portrayal of Latinos.

Broadcast Communications; Entertainment Law; and Business Administration (with an emphasis on entertainment management). NHFA works with the Hispanic College Fund to administer the scholarships. For more information, please contact the Fund directly at 202-296-5400. NHFA is also working with ABC, Discovery Networks, Time Warner, The Walt Disney Company and others to provide internships for scholarship recipients. Time Warner's president, Dick Parsons, the 1998 recipient of the Raul Julia Award for Excellence, is offering 10 internships to qualified candidates.

University of California at Los Angeles

Alberto Barboza

Richard Castaniero

Joe William Romero

Ruth C.Sosa

Yale University

Adriana Gaviria

Raul Julia Award

Goes to Time- Warner's

Dick Parsons...

This year, NHFA presented its 1998 Raul Julia Award for Excellence to Dick Parsons, President of Time Warner Inc., for his commitment to providing opportunities for young Latinos aspiring to careers in the entertainment field. The award, unveiled at NHFA's first Noche de Gala

dinner in 1997, is given to individuals of organizations whose work epitomizes the Foundation's ideals. the 1998 award, presented by Merel Julia, reorganized Time Warner's participation and those of its subsidiaries: *People en Español*, HBO and Warner Music. In accepting the award, Dick Parsons challenged other media companies to match Time Warner's commitment to provide 10 summer internships to NHFA scholarship recipients.

Mark Your Calendar

The 3rd Annual

Noche de Gala Dinner

is scheduled for

Monday

September 13, 1999

Mayflower Hotel

Washington D.C.

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National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts

Scholarship Application Criteria

To be eligible for consideration for a NHFA Entertainment Industry Scholarship, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have been accepted or be enrolled as a full-time graduate student at one on the following universities: **New York University, Columbia University, Yale University, University of California at Los Angeles, and the University of Southern University.**

The scholarship program seeks applicants who are pursuing disciplines leading to careers in the entertainment arts and industry. These disciplines include, but are not limited to: Acting; Theater; Radio & Television, Film; Music; Set Design; Costume Design; Lighting Design; Motion Picture Production; and Playwriting.

The following students are encouraged to apply:

- a. Students pursuing graduate degrees in law and/or business who are seeking either joint degrees, certificates, or concentrations in entertainment-related fields, or
 - b. Students pursuing graduate degrees in law and/or business who already possess undergraduate degrees in the disciplinary fields listed above and who plan to pursue careers in the entertainment arts and industry.
2. Must be in good academic standing with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.
 3. Must provide evidence of financial need. (To qualify, students must come from families with incomes at or below 60% of the area's median family income, based on family size.) Certification by a college or university's office of student financial aid is required.
 4. At the time of application, applicant must be a U.S. citizen of Hispanic origin residing in any of the 50 states or the territories of the United States of America.
 5. Close consideration will be given to students who can demonstrate special talent in the above areas. Students may submit portfolios and/or video/audio tapes of their work.

For an application package please contact:

RRodriguez@HispanicArts.org

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