

Division of

# LATINO AFFAIRS

Volume 1, Issue 3

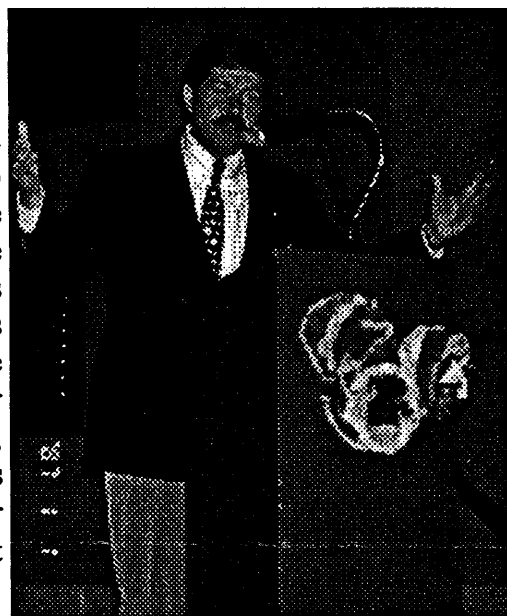
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

December, 1997



## *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words*

Governor Terry E. Branstad welcomes participants of the First Annual Iowa Latino Leadership Conference held October 17-18th at Grinnell College. Over 130 Latino leaders and service providers had the opportunity to meet, exchange information, and have fun at this event. The Division of Latino Affairs would like to thank and congratulate all of this year's participants. For those who were not able to attend, see for yourself the highlights in this special photo edition of our newsletter. We hope to see you next year!!!



**To the Reader:** Please share the insert with our Spanish-speaking population. Feel free to make copies.

### **Mark Your Calendar!!! ONE WORLD: MANY VOICES**

The 1998 Iowa English as a Second Language/Bilingual Education and Refugee Concerns Conference will be held February 18-19th at the Holiday Inn Airport in Des Moines. To register, contact Gretchen Kelley at (515) 281-3061.

**THE CHANGING FACE OF IOWA IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A Conference on the Implications of Diversity and Immigration** will be held March 13th at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo. For more information call Dawn Peterson at (515) 281-8086.

Editor: Marilyn Murphy  
Phone: (515) 281-4080 or  
(515) 281-4070  
E-mail: stjeri@max.state.ia.us  
Fax: (515) 242-6119

## *Celebrating the Hispanic Heritage*

The Division of Latino Affairs presented awards to five Iowa women for their years of untiring work for the preservation of Latino culture. Pat Arenas, Lena Avila-Robison, Ila Plasencia, Mary Campos, and Bea Gallo Ray (not pictured) received plaques during a festive show of regional dress from Latin American countries on September



17th at the New Historical Building in Des Moines. More than twenty models were accompanied by guitarist Fred Trujillo and traditional Mexican songs performed by Alicia Peña and R.J. Hernandez. Turn the page to see photos of some of the beautiful textiles featured in this event! If you have traditional dresses from your country of origin, plan to participate in next year's celebration!



## GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMISSIONERS

Governor Terry E. Branstad recently appointed 8 new commissioners to the 9-member Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs. We will feature them in each issue of this publication!



**John-Paul Chaisson**, Chair of the Commission, serves the Iowa City and West Liberty areas. He was born in Albany, Georgia, and was raised in Guatemala. John-Paul is the At-risk Youth and Multicultural/Non-Sexist Education Coordinator for West Liberty Schools and also works at the National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice as a Trainer of Trainers in the area of cultural competence in social services. He is involved with GANAS, a community-based organization which is dedicated to improving the lives of minority youth, the West Liberty Equity Committee, and the Violence Prevention Committee. John-Paul is bicultural/bilingual and enjoys music, soccer, and reading.



**Paula A. Martinez** serves the Des Moines and Carlisle areas. She works for the Fifth Judicial District as a Court Attendant and Clerical Assistant. An extremely active community member, Paula serves as President of the Polk County American Legion Auxiliary, Secretary/Treasurer of the 6th District American Legion Auxiliary, and Trustee for AFSCME Local 3013. Paula and her husband, Milton Martinez, Jr. have five children. Family, church, and community are very important to Paula. "I have had many memorable opportunities provided to me because of my grandparents, parents, husband, children, and friends. To me, these can never be taken away by anyone and I pray and hope that each and every one of us can pass opportunities on to the future generations in our families and communities."

## HOT RESOURCES!

Contact the **Division of Latino Affairs** at (515) 281-4070 to obtain the following resources.

### Need an Attorney?

The Division of Latino Affairs has available a list of attorneys in Iowa and Omaha, Nebraska who specialize in immigration law. A second list is available of attorneys (of varying specialization) who provide services in Spanish.

### WE'RE IN BUSINESS NOW!

The number of Latino-owned businesses in Iowa is expanding rapidly, offering products and services in everything from restaurants to hair salons to auto repairs (just to name a few). To see for yourself the contributions Latinos are making in business, call (515) 281-4070 for a copy of the state-wide business list.

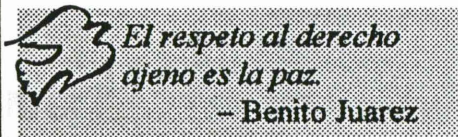
### Si quiere mejorar el inglés...

Contact the Division of Latino Affairs for the most recent copy of our state-wide ESL and Citizenship class directory. The directory includes the following information: class sponsor, location, contact person, contact phone, days, times, childcare, fees, and type of instruction.



*Thank You*

to **Johanna Thalacker**, our summer intern from Taylor University for developing the ESL and attorney listings. We miss you Johanna!

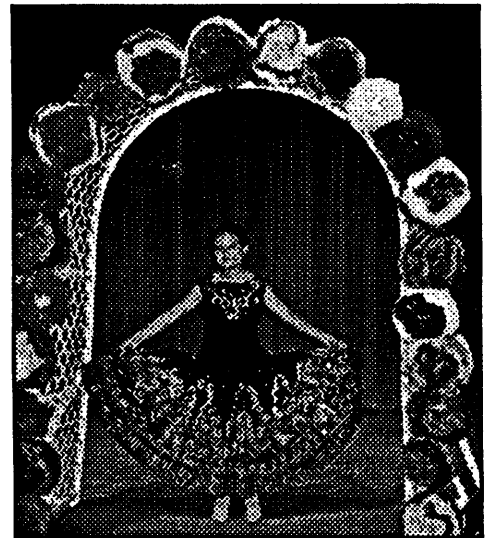


### JOB NOTICES

The Division of Latino Affairs maintains a listing of job opportunities. There is currently a high demand for bilingual employees. Call (515) 281-4070 for more information.



## PRESENTING TRADITIONAL DRESS FROM LATIN AMERICA



The Division of Latino Affairs kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month with a program which featured traditional dresses from the private collections of Pat Arenas, Mary Campos, Ila R. Plasencia, and Paula Plasencia. *Photos courtesy of Ellie Webb.*



Governor Terry E. Branstad signs the Hispanic Heritage Proclamation on September 9th.

# Highlights from the 1997 Latino Leadership Conference: *Building Partnerships for the Latino Community into the 21st Century*



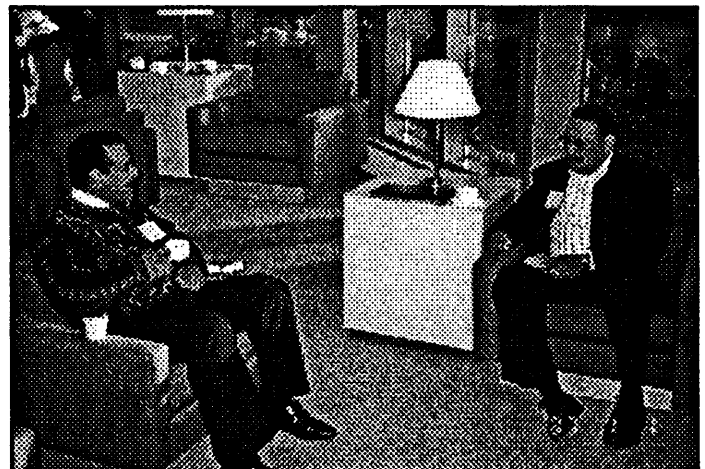
LTC (RET) Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch (pictured above) delivered a powerful keynote address. Consuelo rose to be the highest ranking Hispanic woman in the Combat Support Field in the U.S. Army.



Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch (above) meets the nine members of the Commission on Latino Affairs.



Which one should I buy? Shoppers admire the crafts at a Latino-owned business display.



Conference participants take advantage of Grinnell College's beautiful facilities during a morning break.

# EL GRAN BAILE



The conference, co-sponsored by SOL (Student Organization of Latinos/as), opened with a reception and dance honoring the Commissioners who serve or have served on the Commission on Latino Affairs.



The evening activity provided an excellent opportunity for Latino leaders across the state of Iowa to meet each other.



With music by Latino Pride, not even the food servers from Grinnell College could keep from dancing!

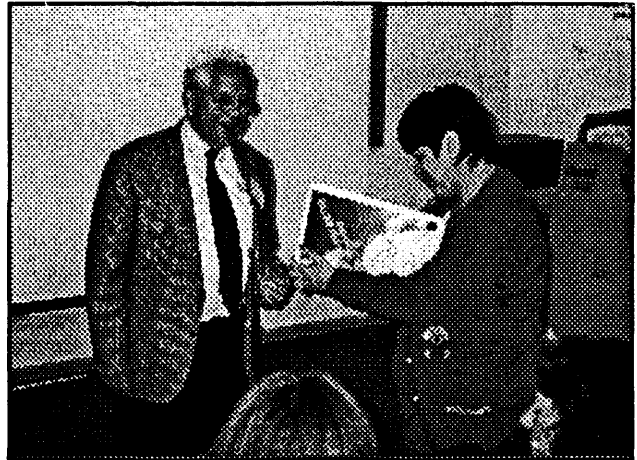


Keynote Speaker Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch (above left) has been recognized at the national level for her selfless devotion and dedication towards empowering youth. Numerous young people, particularly from the Des Moines and West Liberty areas, had the opportunity to meet Consuelo at the conference.

# LUNCHEON FESTIVITIES



Un gran aplauso! Las Guitarras de Mexico were a hit at the conference luncheon.



Candid glimpses of workshop presenters and participants! Workshop topics included interpreting, acculturation, job-hunting strategies, acing the ACT, building coalitions, and Latino businesses.



## JOIN US IN BUILDING CULTURAL BRIDGES

*In minor ways we differ...  
In major ways we're the same.  
I note the obvious differences between each sort, each type.  
But we are more alike my friends, than we are unlike.  
-Maya Angelou*

### Bridge the cultural gap in your:

- ◆ Community
- ◆ School
- ◆ Work place
- ◆ Club or Organization



The Division of Latino Affairs conducts workshops, lunch & learns, and in-services to give YOU the tools to foster cultural understanding in your environment. Crash courses in Survival Spanish are also available. Call (515) 281-4070 for more information.

## Take Note...



### HELP!!!

We need photos, stories, and other documentation that illustrate the early migration of Latinos to the state of Iowa. Call (515) 281-4070.

### HOT OFF THE PRESS

Look for the latest edition of *El Correo*, the new weekly Spanish language newspaper. Congratulations to Francisco Vélez for this valuable service!

### Special Thanks to...

✿ Susan Neifer and Crystal Rex from Central College for their outstanding writing contributions to several Latino Affairs projects.

✿ Claudia Saborido-Z. for contributing her Spanish expertise and proofreading skills to this publication.

### *Congratulations to our Citizenship and ESL Students at the Guadalupe Chapel*

On September 21, the Division of Latino Affairs presented 11 students with certificates of achievement for outstanding work during 5 months of studies in citizenship and English. The Division also presented certificates of appreciation to Mary Campos, Ana Morales, and Shelley Watkins for volunteering their time to help with the classes. Thank you for all your hard work!!!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>December 20</b>    | Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs Meeting*<br>Lenox United Presbyterian Church, 401 Michigan St., Lenox 10:00 AM   |
| <b>January 22</b>     | Des Moines Service Providers Coalition Meeting*<br>Hosted by Children and Families of Iowa, 1111 University Ave. 4:30 - 6:00 PM                            |
| <b>February 14</b>    | Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs Meeting*<br>Iowa City 10:00 AM   |
| <b>February 18-19</b> | <i>One World: Many Voices</i> - English as a Second Language/Bilingual Education and Refugee Concerns Conference<br>Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines        |
| <b>March 13</b>       | <i>The Changing Face of Iowa in the 21st Century: A Conference on the Implications of Diversity and Immigration</i><br>Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo |
- \*Public Invited**



## Commission on Latino Affairs Department of Human Rights

John-Paul Chaisson, Chair	West Liberty	(319) 627-2115
Ray Gimenez, Vice-Chair	Clinton	(319) 242-9016
Maria Moravec, Secretary	Sioux City	(712) 252-7774
Robert Deranleau	Creston	(515) 782-9712
J. Guadalupe Flores	Muscatine	(319) 262-4190
Paula A. Martinez	Carlisle	(515) 286-3856
Teresa J. Martinez	Cedar Rapids	(319) 366-3383
M. Claudia Saborido-Z.	Clarion	(515) 532-2873
Raul Garcia Sequeira	West Des Moines	(515) 244-4349
Sylvia Tijerina, Administrator, Division of Latino Affairs		(515) 281-4070
Almo Hawkins, Director, Department of Human Rights		(515) 281-7300

The mission of the Commission on Latino Affairs is to improve the quality of life of all Iowans by increasing statewide understanding of the social, cultural and economic contributions Latinos make in Iowa.

Additionally, our mission is to serve as a resource center which promotes positive change by assessing the issues and making recommendations to decision makers of the challenges facing Iowa's Latino community.

Department of Human Rights  
Division of Latino Affairs  
Lucas State Office Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

**Address Correction Requested**

KGAN TV  
800 S. Dubuque St.  
Iowa City, IA 52240

KGAN800 522403046 IN 18 01/02/98  
RETURN TO SENDER  
NO FORWARD ORDER ON FILE  
UNABLE TO FORWARD  
RETURN TO SENDER

32240X4204