

GARY ACOSTA Co-Founder & CEO National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP ®)



Director of Operations St. Paul's PACE



RAFAEL D. **ALVAREZ** MESA Program Director San Diego City College



CATHERINE M. ARAMBULA Financial Advisor/Communit Leader Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management



GISELE BONITZ Board of Governors Member San Diego Foundation



ADRIANA BRUNNER isiness Development Manag MyPoint Credit Union



GIL CABRERA Founder The Cabrera Firm, APC



RAFAEL CASTELLANOS San Diego Port Commis & Business Attorney
Port of San Diego & Solomon
Minton Cardinal Doyle & Smith LLP



PAUL CHANG Sr. Preconstruction Manage Balfour Beatty



ALBERTO CORTÉS Chief Executive Officer Mama's Kitchen



CARLOS O. CORTEZ, PH.D. Chancellor



MARITZA DIAZ Chief Executive Officer ITJ



SHAWNDA DORANTES APRN, MSN, FNP-C Founder of Beauty Lounge Medical Spa Beauty Lounge Medical Spa



JOSIE FLORES-CLARK President National Latina Business Women Association, San Diego (NLBWASD)



REGINA FRASCA Director, Office of Safety, Health & Sustainability Cal State San Marcos



JOHN GOMEZ Founder / CEO Gomez Trial Attorneys



CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ Brand Communication & Public Affairs Director New City America



ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ-PULIDO Partner Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP



LISETTE ISLAS xecutive Vice President & Chief Impact Officer MAAC



DR. TINA M. KING President San Diego College of Continuing Education



Director of the Latinx Cente California State University San Marcos



HERNÁN LUIS Y PRADO CEO & Founder Workshops for Warriors



BOSCO LUJAN Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor Morgan Stanley



TEODORO MARTINEZ Research Manager San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation



GASTON MARTINEZ Co-Founder, IZO Spirits IZO Spirits



2022 1





ANA MELGOZA Vice President of External Affairs San Ysidro Health



ADRIANA MENDOZA Manager, Public Affairs Cox Communications



BEN MORAGA Vice President Sharp HealthCare Foundation



MOISES MOREIDA Public Health Project and Planning Manager TrueCare



ALEJANDRO NUNEZ Chief Growth Officer Neighborhood Healthcare



Chief Medical Officer ResMed







GEORGE L. PLA Founder and CEO Cordoba Corp Cordoba Corporation



CLAUDIO ROBERTSON Executive Director, Banker J.P. Morgan Private Bank



MONIQUE RODRIGUEZ Qualcomm Inc.



CINDY SALAS Founder & CEO WithHealth



DONNA SAN MIGUEL Executive Director of Community Relations Cal State San Marcos



DR. MARK SANCHEZ Superintendent/President Southwestern College



LINDA SIERRA Senior Vice President Business Development Bench International



FRED SOTELO President/CEO Cerveza XTECA



RENEE N.G. **STACKHOUSE** Trial Lawyer/Owner Stackhouse, APC



ALBERT VALDIVIA Vice President Clark Construction



DANIELLE VALENCIANO Director, Scholarships San Diego Foundation



RICARDO VILLA President San Diego County Imperial Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



DANITZA VILLANUEVA Co-Publisher Giving Back Magazine



HUGO VILLAR Dean Division of Extended Studies, UC San Diego UC San Diego



ROBERT VILLAREAL



WILKINSON SVP, General Manager atravision Communication



Executive Director, International Business Affairs San Diego Regional
Chamber of Commerce







GARY ACOSTA
Co-Founder & CEO
National Association of Hispanic Real
Estate Professionals (NAHREP ®)

ary Acosta is the Co-Founder & CEO of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals, the nation's largest Hispanic business organization, with a network of more than 40,000 professionals and 100 local chapters.

Acosta is an entrepreneur, public policy advocate and investor. As CEO of NAHREP, Acosta created the Hispanic Wealth Project, a non-profit organization with a strategic plan to triple Hispanic household wealth by 2024.

Acosta is also the co-founder of L'ATTI-TUDE, an event he produces with international business executive Sol Trujillo, former United Airlines CEO Oscar Munoz, and musician Emilio Estefan. Acosta is also a general partner of L'ATTITUDE Ventures, the nation's largest venture capital fund exclusively focused on Latino-led start-ups.

Acosta has founded several mortgage, real estate, and technology companies including New Vista Asset Management. Hispanic Business Magazine named him one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics in America.





ALBERTO ALDRETE
Director of Operations
St. Paul's PACE

A lberto Aldrete is Director of Operations at St. Paul's Senior Services. In that role, Aldrete has spearheaded the implementation of the new Mobile Medical Clinic for St. Paul's participants during the COVID-19 pandemic, where accessibility to the centers was limited.

As operations director, Aldrete leads all St. Paul's PACE centers throughout San Diego County in providing needed care for 1,500 frail and low-income San Diego seniors.

Aldrete negotiated new, large contracts that bring additional services to St. Paul's PACE and its participants. He directed and oversaw multiple-process improvement campaigns to streamline processes to expedite the enrollment process and reduce wait times for participant enrollment by more than 50%. This has allowed more PACE-qualified San Diego elderly to obtain needed services, with the goal of safer and sustained independent home-living, and better quality of life.

Aldrete devotes time to voluntary service to several organizations, including pediatric cancer support in Mexico.





RAFAEL D. ALVAREZ MESA Program Director San Diego City College

afael D. Alvarez is Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program Director at San Diego City College, an academic support program for students transferring to four-year universities in STEM majors. The program focuses on a "learning culture" revolution in higher education to transform student lives, especially the lives of underrepresented students of color.

Alvarez earned the 2021 Outstanding Engineering Educator Award by the San Diego County Engineering Council, a recognition that inspired him to capture the school's learning culture praxis model in "Turning on the Lights: Using Learning Culture to Increase Student Success," which has a website with learning culture resources for students and faculty and staff.

Alvarez founded the SDCC MESA Program in 2000 for the school, which is a Hispanic Serving Institution, and he began transforming the MESA model in 2009 by using learning culture to increase student success.

He can be reached at ralvarez@sdccd.edu





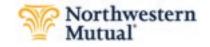
CATHERINE M. ARAMBULA
Financial Advisor/Community Leader
Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management

atherine M. Arambula is a financial advisor and community leader at Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management. Arambula has been a member of the of San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association (SDL-RLA) since 2008 and was instrumental in the creation of the SDLRLA Public Benefit Fund to support the program arm.

As the Founding Treasurer of SDLRLA Public Benefit Fund (established in 2021 and launched April 2022), Arambula helped the operation secure a grant for its three programs focusing on elementary school, high school and the community. She was awarded "2021 Service to San Diego La Raza Lawyers" in recognition of years of commitment and outstanding service to the SDLRLA.

Arambula is a former MANA de San Diego President, and Western Region Board Member who was inducted into the MANA Ring of Honor.

She can be reached at catherine.arambu-la@nm.com or 619-204-4048.





GISELE BONITZ
Board of Governors Member
San Diego Foundation

sisele Bonitz is a governing board member at San Diego Foundation. During her time on the San Diego Foundation Board of Governors, she helped define the organization's new mission, vision, values and Strategic Plan, and supported the foundation's COVID-19 Community Response Fund that granted \$67 million for local nonprofit organizations.

Professionally, Bonitz is a Director at Intel Corporation where she enables the growth of Intel's Data Center business while ensuring a strong culture of ethics and legal compliance as Senior Strategic Risk and Controls Program Manager.

Bonitz is a former Captain in the U.S. Navy and Commanding Officer of Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific. She graduated from UC Berkeley, holds a master's degree in science in space systems operations from the Naval Postgraduate School and earned a master's degree of arts in strategic studies from the Air War College.





ADRIANA BRUNNER
Business Development Manager
MyPoint Credit Union

driana Brunner is a Business Development Manager at MyPoint Credit Union. She has worked in the financial services industry for 27 years – 15 at MyPoint

Brunner was the 2022 National City Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year and a 2021 Women in Leadership finalist

During the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Brunner created a series of webinars for Latinas in Business to help connect professionals, and the series has continued to grow.

Brunner fostered a partnership with KSDY-50 television station and San Diego Equality Business Association to highlight Latino business owners in the LGBTQ+community. She has brought together partners from different industries to create a group of resources for Latino small business owners, including Accesity, National Latina Business Women Association, Small Business Association, SCORE and San Diego Women's Business Center.

She can be reached at abrunner@my-pointcu.com or 858-243-7471





GIL CABRERA
Founder
The Cabrera Firm, APC

il Cabrera has been an attorney in San

Diego County for 25 years.

Cabrera has successfully represented some of the largest companies in the country as well as small and emerging local businesses and individuals. He has represented clients before government agencies such as

nesses and individuals. He has represented clients before government agencies such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, the U.S. Department of Justice and the California Attorney General's Office.

Cabrera has chaired organizations including the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, Sharp Healthcare, San Diego Convention Center and Make-a-Wish Foundation of San Diego. He also co-chaired the San Diego Chief of Police's Use of Force Task Force.

From 2005 to 2010, Cabrera served on the San Diego Ethics Commission, which monitors and enforces the city's governmental campaign finance and ethics laws, and proposes new governmental ethics law reforms.

He can be reached at gil@cabrerafirm. com and 619-500-4880.

THE CABRERA FIRM A.P.C.



RAFAEL CASTELLANOS
San Diego Port Commissioner & Business Attorney
Port of San Diego & Solomon Minton Cardinal Doyle & Smith LLP

Rafael Castellanos is a board member with the Port of San Diego and practices business law at Solomon Minton Cardinal Doyle & Smith LLP.

Castellanos helped lead the port's pre-development and approval of the \$1.3 billion Gaylord Pacific Resort & Convention Center on the Chula Vista Bayfront, which broke ground this year. The project, the largest public-private partnership in the history of San Diego County, will create about 4,000 construction jobs, 4,000 permanent jobs and contribute \$1.5 billion to the regional economy during construction plus \$500 million annually once completed.

In 2021, Castellanos helped lead the Port's adoption of its Maritime Clean Air Strategy, the most ambitious seaport clean air strategy in the nation. It has already helped deliver \$25 million of maritime cargo handling and cruise vessel electrification improvements to the Port.

He can be reached at rc@smcdslaw.com and 619-237-4914.



i Felicidades! Congratulations



Hugo O. Villar, Ph.D., MBA on being selected as a Top Latino Leader of Influence by San Diego Business Journal

As dean of UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies, Dr. Hugo Villar oversees educational programs in areas as diverse as Arts and Languages, Engineering, Healthcare, Applied Math, Life Sciences, and Business for non-matriculated students, encompassing more than 100,000 students annually. His office also supports Corporate and Custom Programs, Innovation and Institutional Research and Instructional and Student Services, International and Precollegiate programs, and UCTV. Villar has prioritized establishing stronger ties with universities and educational institutions in Latin America and increasing access to education for underserved communities to create opportunities for socioeconomic mobility. He played a pivotal role in the 2022 opening of UC San Diego Park & Market, located in downtown San Diego, intended to serve as a community hub and intersection of people, ideas, science, art, and innovation.

extendedstudies.ucsd.edu









PAUL CHANG Sr. Preconstruction Manager **Balfour Beatty**

aul Chang is Senior Preconstruction Manager at Balfour Beatty Construction. He is responsible for preparing budgets, estimates and pre-bid packages for a wide range of clients across Southern California.

A certified professional estimator, Chang has more than 25 years of experience in estimating. He holds a technical degree in diversified tool and die stamping and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management.

Currently, Chang is collaborating on a \$14 billion San Diego Unified School District bonding program for modernization and new construction.

Chang has been awarded the Albert R. Vallin Award for Estimator of the Year and is the first Hispanic President of American Society of Professional Estimators' San Diego chapter. He is also a member of The Associated General Contractors of America San Diego and is part of the Construction & Collaboration Mentor Protégé Program, San Diego Chapter.

Balfour Beatty



Chief Executive Officer Mama's Kitchen

lberto Cortés is CEO of Mama's Kitchen. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Cortés helped provide guidance and leadership that supported emergency response efforts to keep some of San Diego County's most vulnerable populations healthy and safe.

Cortés has been part of Mama's Kitchen's ability to scale and grow. He led a successful launch of DEI initiatives for Mama's Kitchen that has progressed the hiring practices of the organization and the organization delivered a record number of meals -- more than 662,000 -- throughout San Diego County in FY22 to critically ill

Cortés also served as the chair for the California Food Is Medicine Coalition to share San Diego's success and expertise executing medically tailored meals and currently serves on the San Diego County HIV Health Services Planning Group.

He can be reached at Alberto@mamaskitchen.org and 619-233-6262





CARLOS O. CORTEZ, PH.D. Chancellor

San Diego Community College District

arlos O. Cortez, Ph.D., is Chancellor at San Diego Community College District and has taught consistently for the past 23 years.

Under his leadership, the district has embraced new language and programs to advance inclusion, diversity, equity and access.

Cortez proposed the development of a program with the San Diego Unified School District to build out concurrent enrollment programming with a focus on students who are at-risk of opting out of high school. The colleges have adjusted the requirements for concurrent enrollment to allow students in charter schools, private schools and independent schools to enroll.

Cortez championed the reimagining of policing across the district. To assist, the Police Advisory Committee was formed in January and the adoption of new reforms is underway.

Cortez is also behind plans to build low-income housing for students and em-





Chief Executive Officer ITI

aritza Diaz is Chief Executive Officer at ITJ, Inc., a binational technology services company and startup that enables other companies to create software centers of excellence

In just three years, Diaz established a successful company, creating 800 new jobs for digital professionals in the California-Baja

Diaz is also a member of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco where she represents San Diego. She is member of the Forbes Technology Council and is the BioMedTech commission leader at Tijuana EDC.

Diaz previously served as senior director at Thermo Fisher Scientific where she was responsible for growing the company's digital capabilities in North America, India, China and Mexico.

Over the past seven years, Diaz has established herself as a thought leader in cross-border collaboration in the software industry between San Diego and Baja.





Congratulations to

Adrianna Brunner

San Diego Business Journal's Top 50 **Latino Leaders of Influence!**

Thanks to Adriana and her team, MyPoint has been helping Hispanic small business owners do more with their businesses and the community for over a decade.

mypointcu.com/business





SHAWNDA DORANTES APRN, MSN, FNP-C

Beauty Lounge Medical Spa hawnda Dorantes is founder of Beauty Lounge Medical Spa.

A powerful force in the beauty industry for the past 15 years and a registered nurse for more than a decade, Dorantes's tailored expertise and innovative service offerings have paved the way for Beauty Lounge's success.

As a supporter of continued education, Dorantes stepped up in 2022 to help Del Norte High School make its Biomedical Pathway Program graduation ceremony extra special by donating the funds needed for each graduating student to receive an embroidered white lab coat – with the hope of inspiring those students to use the skills they learned throughout their program.

Before becoming a beauty nurse practitioner, Dorantes worked in the acute care setting, where patients require constant care and where her dedication and compassion positively influenced all.

She can be reached at businessoperations@beautyloungesm.com and 760-621-6132.





JOSIE FLORES-CLARK

President National Latina Business Women

National Latina Business Women Association, San Diego (NLBWASD)

osie Flores-Clark is President of the National Latina Business Women Association, San Diego, where she increased the membership by 60 businesses within one year.

Flores-Clark assisted struggling Latina businesses to obtain much needed grant money during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also cleared up many legal and filing requirements that were hindering the effectiveness and opportunities of the NLBWA.

Flores-Clark volunteers as a liaison for Olongapo, Philippines and Baja California, mentors minority youth and businesses, and organizes assistance for thousands of families in need during the holidays. She is employed as the Executive Assistant to the National City Director of Housing Authority, providing housing opportunities for low-income families.

Flores-Clark previously served as the Chief Operating Officer for JC Towing, where she increased accountability, 40% growth in revenue and diversity to include more Latinos.

She can be reached at josiefclark@gmail. com and 619-813-3540.





REGINA FRASCADirector, Office of Safety, Health & Sustainability

Sustainability
Cal State San Marcos

egina Frasca is Director of Office of Safety, Health & Sustainability at Cal State San Marcos.

Frasca has embraced campuswide safety, health and sustainability initiatives, supporting a culture of safety across the CSUSM campus.

Frasca responded with care and expertise during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the campus was operating primarily virtually, she worked with faculty and staff to create safe in-person access to labs and offices. She developed the Covered Cougars Center, providing access to safety materials and personal protective equipment otherwise in short supply.

Frasca has a degree in Biochemistry from UC San Diego, is a certified Chemical Hygiene Officer and has a professional certificate in Hazardous Materials Management.

Over more than three decades, Frasca has worked as a biomedical researcher, held positions in her field at UCSD, The Scripps Research Institute, UCLA and the San Diego Zoo.





JOHN GOMEZ
Founder / CEO
Gomez Trial Attorneys

Ohn Gomez is Lead Trial Attorney and President of Gomez Trial Attorneys. He founded the law firm in 2005 and since that time, has established himself as one of California's most recognized and accomplished trial lawyers.

Gomez has twice been named San Diego's Trial Lawyer of the Year. The Consumer Attorneys of San Diego have awarded him an unprecedented 11 separate Outstanding Trial Lawyer Awards. He has been voted by peers a top 10 San Diego Super Lawyer every year since 2012.

Since 2000, Gomez has recovered over \$500 million in settlements and verdicts for his clients

Gomez is as known for his work in the community as he is for his work in the courtroom. He commits enormous time and resources to a variety of charitable causes involving kids at risk foster children and Latino causes.

He can be reached at john@thegomez-firm.com or 619-237-3490







CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ
Brand Communication & Public Affairs Director
New City America

hristopher Gomez is Brand Communication and Public Affairs Director at New City America (NCA).

Gomez works with clients on brand development, design, content management system website oversight, project and program concept development and execution, crisis management and communication, public-facing communications, grant research and execution, and donor cultivation and stewardship. He also acts as a liaison to city, county, state and other government agencies.

Gomez serves as the District Manager for N-CA client, the Little Italy Association of San Diego, overseeing their day-to-day operation, communication, policy development and changes, as well as launching its first-ever Casino di Piazza fundraiser in the Piazza del la Famiglia in 2022.

Gomez also serves as the Brand Communication and Development Manager for NCA's client, the Downtown Chula Vista Association, overseeing its recent rebrand from Third Avenue Village to Downtown Chula Vista, complete with a new logo and website.





ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ-PULIDO

Partner

Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP

nrique Hernandez-Pulido is a partner with Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP. Since 2019 he has been an elected member of its management committee, providing international tax planning and related international matters to clients.

Hernandez-Pulido represents clients in the development of business transactions, worldwide investment and financing structures, planning for worldwide income, and estate and inheritance taxes. He has been recognized since 2021 by Best Lawyers in America for Tax Law.

For 10 years, Hernandez-Pulido worked in the Mexican government, acting as the Under Fiscal Federal General Attorney in charge of consultation and legislative issues, was legal general director of Mexico's Bank Deposit Insurance Federal Authority and was general counsel of FIDELIQ. He is a past chair of the of the International Law Section of the San Diego Bar Association.

He can be reached at enrique.hernandez@procopio.com and 619-515-3240.





LISETTE ISLAS

Executive Vice President & Chief Impact Officer

MAAC

isette Islas is Executive Vice President & Chief Impact Officer at MAAC, a San Diego County nonprofit offering programs and services in health, education, economic development, housing and advocacy.

Islas has more than 20 years of experience working in the fields of community development and philanthropy. She focuses on increasing the visibility, reach and outcomes of MAAC's work, and facilitates the leadership development for staff, board members, and volunteers.

When data surfaced about black and brown communities being disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, Islas called on community partners to address the issues through a countywide approach. She became one of four leaders guiding the work of the San Diego Latino Health Coalition, a group that aims to reduce the COVID-19 infection rates among hard-to reach populations.

She can be reached at lislas@MAACproject.org and 619-426-3595, ext. 1205.





DR. TINA M. KING

President

San Diego College of Continuing

Education

pr. Tina M. King is President of the San Diego College of Continuing Education. King oversees and advocates for 40,000 students at California's largest institution of noncredit education. She formerly served as Assistant Superintendent and Vice President for Student Affairs at Southwestern College, where she obtained a \$3 million grant to advance equitable student programs, developed the first LGBTQIA+ Learning Community and established a Personal Wellness Center to meet students' mental health and wellness needs.

King also serves as a professor at San Diego State University, teaching equity-minded approaches to student success to graduate students in postsecondary educational leadership. A humanitarian academic leader, King's life's work is driven by social justice reform that mirrors SDCCE's mission to provide accessible, equitable, and innovative quality education and career training to adult students and its role in American Civil Rights.

SANDIEGO COLLICZ GE CONTINUING EDUCATION

CONGRATULATIONS





ALBERTO ALDRETE Director of Operations

ONE OF SAN DIEGO'S 2022 TOP LATINO BUSINESS LEADERS OF INFLUENCE!

THANK YOU ALBERTO

FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO THE SENIORS OF SAN DIEGO



DR. RENZO LARA
Director of the Latinx Center
California State University San Marcos

r. Renzo Lara is Director of the Latinx Center at California State University San Marcos.

Lara coordinated and facilitated the first Hispanic Serving Institute Summit at Cal State San Marcos. He received a \$20,000 grant from the CSU Student Success Equity Group aimed at leadership development and mentorship for Latinx Leader Students on campus.

Lara spearheaded the Young Men of Color initiative to recruit and retain students in collaboration with the Latinx and Black Student Centers. He established a Latinx STEM pathways program in collaboration with CSUSM/AmeriCorps, aimed at closing equity gaps among Latino STEM Students and increasing graduation rates. He established a partnership with SDG&E to fund and collaborate on academies serving high school and first-year college students.

Lara developed a COVID-19 vaccination campaign in partnership with Vista Community Clinic and CSUSM for the Latinx Student Community in 2021.





HERNÁN LUIS Y PRADO CEO & Founder Workshops for Warriors

ernán Luis y Prado is founder and CEO of Workshops for Warriors (WfW).

WfW was founded in 2008 because of Luis y Prado's desire to rebuild American manufacturing and help veterans have a new mission. The United States has more than 1 million unfilled advanced manufacturing jobs, partly due to the lack of a national training infrastructure. He created the only nonprofit school in the nation that has trained more than 1,000 veterans for advanced manufacturing careers.

Selected as the U.S. Small Business Administration's Small Business Person of The Year in 2022 for California, Luis y Prado's group achieved year-over-year income growth.

A 15-year U.S. Navy veteran, Luis y Prado has been recognized as a "Champion of Change" by the White House for helping veterans transition from the military.

He can be reached at info@wfw.org and 619-550-1620.





BOSCO LUJAN
Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor
Morgan Stanley

Bosco Lujan is Senior Vice President and a Financial Advisor at Morgan Stanley, serving ultra-high net worth individuals, institutional investors and family offices. He is a Certified Portfolio Manager holding the Family Wealth Director, Senior Portfolio Management Director, Alternative Investments Director, and International Client Advisor designations at Morgan Stanley.

Lujan was named to Forbes Magazine's 2022 and 2021 lists for Best-in-State Wealth Advisors in Private Wealth.

He has more than 20 years of business experience and worked in the advertising, beer and consumer packaged goods industries at companies that include Gamesa-Quaker, FEMSA and Heineken USA. He transitioned into Wealth Management in late 2007.

Lujan serves on the dean's advisory council at UCSD's Rady School of Management and is a director on the alumni board at UCSD where he is part of the engagement committee.

He can be reached at bosco.lujan@morgan-stanley.com and 619-238-6205.

Morgan Stanley



TEODORO MARTINEZ

Research Manager

San Diego Regional Economic

Development Corporation

eodoro Martinez is Research Manager with the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation.

Martinez manages research related to San Diego's largest economic engines with an eye toward inclusivity and economic mobility. His work is centered on regional economic strategies that aim to promote housing affordability and access to education pathways that lead to quality jobs in San Diego.

Martinez previously served in multiple positions for the San Diego City Council making vote recommendations and developing public policies related to economic development, the budget and COVID-19 response and recovery.

Previously, he was a California Senate Fellow in the state legislature serving as a legislative aide and Communications Director in the Senate and Assembly.

Martinez serves on the Board of Directors for Chicano Federation of San Diego County and has serves as a mentor for Reality Changers, a non-profit that prepares first-generation college students.



THE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT CONGRATULATES



Chancellor Carlos O. Cortez, Ph.D.



San Diego College of Continuing Education President



San Diego City College Professor Rafael D. Alvarez

FOR BEING RECOGNIZED AS LATINO LEADERS OF INFLUENCE.

The SDCCD and its colleges — San Diego City, Mesa, Miramar and Continuing Education — welcome and support all Latino and Hispanic students.











GASTON MARTINEZ

Co-Founder
IZO Spirits

aston Martinez is co-founder and CEO of IZO Spirits, which sustainably produces a collection of premium handcrafted agave spirits according to centuries of tradition in the heart of Durango, Mexico, where he is from.

Martinez has made clear that the mission of his brand is to share his beloved culture with the world through the smooth flavor of traditionally crafted agave spirits. His diversified sales strategy included both onsite restaurant/bar sales, as well as consumer-facing stores like Costco.

A strategic focus on retail during the 2020 market lull kept the brand strong, empowering IZO to increase sales by 300%. The spirits are made sustainably from slow-roasted, wild agave hearts harvested on local ranches, speaking to generations of Mezcaleros bringing people together around shared values of community, celebration and the reward of a job well done.

He can be reached at gaston@izospirits. com and 619-847-7862





ANA MELGOZA
Vice President of External Affairs
San Ysidro Health

An Melgoza is Vice President of External Affairs at San Ysidro Health. Throughout her 17-year tenure, San Ysidro Health has grown exponentially and today has 110,000 lives in their care.

As part of the executive team, Melgoza oversees government relations and advocacy; public/private/nonprofit partnerships; private fund development; and social media, media relations and corporate communications.

Melgoza is a graduate of the National Urban Fellows Program and holds a master's in public administration from the Baruch School of Public Affairs. She is an alumna of the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality Leadership Institute and a graduate of LEAD San Diego.

Melgoza serves as advisory member for the National Council on Aging-Equity in Aging Collaborative; commissioner and chair for the Healthy Chula Vista Advisory Commission; District 1 representative for San Diego County Health Services Advisory Board; and board member for Circulate San Diego.





ADRIANA MENDOZA Manager, Public Affairs Cox Communications

Affairs for Cox Communications.

Mendoza has participated and led

numerous programs, including Cox's employee-led Latino Employee Resource Group and local community grants through the Cox Charities Foundation. Throughout her 24 years with Cox, she has become a role model, a friend and an influential part of the Cox team.

Mendoza has served an extensive amount of time giving back to our local nonprofits. Through serving on several boards such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego, Computers to Kids and Mana de San Diego, she has become a respected member in the community.

Mendoza is a member of the National Latina Business Women Association in San Diego, advocating for and supporting large events such as Hispanic Heritage Month. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Taxpayers Association





BEN MORAGAVice President
Sharp HealthCare Foundation

Ben Moraga is Vice President of the Sharp HealthCare Foundation. He leads a team across three foundations, representing four acute care hospitals, three specialty hospitals, and more than 24 outpatient clinics for Sharp – San Diego's largest private employer.

Prior to joining Sharp, Moraga spent eight years with San Diego State University as the Associate Vice President, University Relations & Development. He began his career in non-profit work as an intern at the Make-A-Wish Foundation when it was an office of six.

In 2010, then-San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders appointed Moraga a commissioner of the San Diego Housing Commission. In 2018, former San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer appointed him a member of the City of San Diego's Library Commission.

Moraga is a member of the U.S.S. Midway Board of Directors, Regional Taskforce on Homelessness Board of Directors, and the SDSU President's Latino Advisory Board.





SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

City College • Mesa College • Miramar College College of Continuing Education



Congratulations!

Promises2Kids congratulates Carlos O. Cortez, Ph.D., Chancellor of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), for being selected as one of the first ever Top 50 Latino Leaders of Influence!

It is an honor to partner with Dr. Cortez and SDCCD to impact the lives of current and former foster youth. He is a true changemaker and leader, and we are proud of all he does for the San Diego community!











MOISES MOREIDA
Public Health Project and Planning Manager
TrueCare

oises Moreida is Public Health Project and Planning Manager for TrueCare. He joined TrueCare in 2015 and previously served as Community Outreach Manager, Outreach Supervisor and Health Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Moreida is responsible for developing public health projects and programs by stimulating activity and providing direction. He also develops budgets, staffing level projections, and action plans to secure grants and meet contract deliverables.

Moreida is passionate about building and strengthening strategic relationships within North San Diego and South Riverside counties, overseeing community outreach activities, especially with Hispanics and other minority groups. His commitment to under-resourced Hispanics began in college when he conducted public health surveys. He is a member of the Community Alliance For Escondido, a nonprofit group that educates and advocates for the improvement of minorities living in the city.

He can be reached at Moises.Moreida@true-care.org and 760-736-8720.





ALEJANDRO NUNEZ Chief Growth Officer Neighborhood Healthcare

A lejandro Nunez is Chief Growth Officer for Neighborhood Healthcare. He has more than 13 years of experience working with federally qualified health centers.

Nunez joined Neighborhood as Director of Operations and transitioned to a Revenue Cycle Director position before advancing to his current role as CGO. His ability to quickly build strong and trusting relationships with stakeholders throughout the organization has been integral to his successes in the complex, ever-changing healthcare industry.

Nunez secured the development of new facilities and services that serviced a record 78,000 patients through 391,214 medical, dental, and behavioral health in-person, telehealth, and mobile clinic visits in 2021. He oversaw the raising of more than \$1 million over the past five years to support unfunded patient care and helped secure the financial resources to expand Neighborhood Healthcare Services to San Marcos, Temecula, Riverside and Valley Center.





CARLOS M. NUNEZ, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
ResMed

arlos M. Nunez, M.D., is Chief Medical Officer for ResMed, a global leader in digital health and cloud-connected medical devices that transforms care for people with sleep apnea, COPD and other chronic diseases.

He leads the company's medical affairs, market access, healthcare economics, government affairs, clinical safety and compliance, clinical science, and innovation functions.

During the pandemic, Nunez played a critical leadership role in industry-wide efforts, partnerships, and discussions to help maintain a sustainable supply chain, with the goal of getting lifesaving devices to every patient who needs one, wherever they are globally.

Under Dr. Nunez' leadership, ResMed included the creation of five new Current Procedural Terminology codes for the American Medical Association to ensure healthcare providers are reimbursed for things such as patient education, device supply, and treatment management in the areas of respiratory and musculoskeletal care.





DR. JORGE OTAÑEZ Associate Chief Medical Officer TrueCare

pr. Jorge Otañez is Associate Chief Medical Officer for TrueCare. He brings more than a decade of experience to the healthcare center, and in this high-profile position provides clinical oversight on the delivery of healthcare, ensuring that patients receive the highest quality of wellness services and programs.

Dr. Otañez chose a career in healthcare after growing up in Tijuana and witnessing firsthand the devastation that medical disparities can have on Latinx individuals and families. For this reason, he is passionate about improving the overall health and wellness of the communities that TrueCare serves.

When COVID hit, he found a very small percentage of Hispanic patients were utilizing telehealth. He promoted the use of telehealth to help Hispanics get better access to health care. He also spearheaded a program for the general Hispanic population to control diabetes.

He can be reached at Jorge.otanez@truecare.org or 760-215-2816,



SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



Congratulations
Ricardo F. Villa

PRESIDENT SAN DIEGO COUNTY IMPERIAL VALLEY HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE































JULIAN PARRA SVP & Regional Executive Bank of America

ulian Parra is Senior Vice President and Regional Executive at Bank of America. He leads client relationship teams delivering financial advice and solutions to companies with \$5 million to \$50 million in annual revenues throughout California, Nevada and Hawaii. Since 1989, Parra has held BofA leadership positions in finance, marketing, product management and product development.

Parra is executive sponsor for the San Diego chapters of Hispanic-Latino Organization for Leadership and Advancement; Leadership Education Advocacy and Development for women; and Black Professionals Group. He also founded the local chapter of BofA's Military Support and Assistance Group.

Parra is active in CleanTech San Diego, World Trade Center, Voices for Children, and the Center for Advancing Global Business at SDSU's Fowler School of Business. He is also past chair of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation board.

He can be reached at julian.parra@bofa.com or 619-241-0328.





GEORGE L. PLA Founder and CEO Cordoba Corporation

eorge L. Pla is founder and CEO of Cordoba Corporation, a nationally recognized engineering firm. He is a successful entrepreneur, philanthropist and author whose work spans business and civic activities focused on enhancing California communities.

Pla's philanthropic efforts include Latino history initiatives at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, highlighting Latino contributions to the United States. He co-authored the book "Power Shift – How Latinos in California Transformed Politics in America" which recounts the history of Latino political empowerment in California and beyond.

Pla was named by Hispanic Business Magazine as one of the "100 Most Influential Latinos" in the nation. Latino Leaders Magazine honored him in 2020 with the "Maestro Award for Entrepreneurship." In May 2022, California Latino Legislative Caucus presented him with the distinguished Latino Spirit Award.

He can be reached at communications@cordobacorp.com or 213-895-0224 ext. 3118.





CLAUDIO ROBERTSON Executive Director, Banker J.P. Morgan Private Bank

laudio Robertson is an Executive Director and Banker with J.P. Morgan Private Bank serving San Diego and the greater region. He guides entrepreneurs, company founders, CEOs, family offices and nonprofit organizations in making financial decisions required to grow and sustain their wealth.

A native Spanish speaker, Robertson is passionate about supporting a diverse base of wealth creators, acting as their advocate to deliver the firm's capabilities. Whether clients seek global investments, banking, estate planning or lending, he brings a holistic approach to integrate their needs across the financial spectrum.

Robertson's business development skills and leadership make him a sought-after resource on live deals and complex challenges.

Robertson has served as a mentor and board member at several regional institutions, including Universidad Xochicalco, Latin Business Association Network, Endeavor and SCORE San Diego Chapter.

He can be reached at claudio.robertson@jp-morgan.com or 858-812-6159.

J.P.Morgan



MONIQUE RODRIGUEZ Vice President, Government Affairs Qualcomm Inc.

onique Rodriguez is Vice President of Government Affairs for Qualcomm Incorporated. In this capacity, she manages part of Qualcomm's international public policy agenda on a range of issues, including international trade, technology policy, competition and innovation, and intellectual property.

In addition to maintaining and strengthening Qualcomm's relationships with branches of the United States and foreign governments, Rodriguez often represents the company before industry associations and multilateral institutions, such as the United Nations and World Trade Organization. She also manages all legislative matters at the local and state level, including political fundraising and acting as the Qualcomm liaison to local and state government in all 50 states.

Rodriguez is responsible for creating and executing corporate strategy in areas ranging from quality of life, technology neutrality, environmental stewardship and taxation. She also manages the Qualcomm Political Action Committee (QPAC).

Qualcom

TrueCare Congratulates



Jorge Otañez, MD

Jorge Otañez, MD
Associate Chief Medical Officer

Moises Moreida, MPH

Community Outreach Manager

2022 Top 50 Latino Business Leaders of Influence



Moises Moreida, MPH

Thank you for your dedication to a healthier and more resilient community.













CINDY SALAS
Founder & CEO
WithHealth

indy Salas is the founder and CEO of With-Health, a genetics-based telehealth company committed transforming the healthcare experience to improve employee health and employer outcomes.

Salas has more than 20 years of experience leading transformation in healthcare for hospitals, medical groups, and as an entrepreneur with a successful exit. Her outcomes include growth of a start-up to more than \$1 billion under management, improved patient safety, quality, service and growth, while reducing cost and optimizing productivity levels.

Among her recent accomplishments, Salas testified before the U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus on the availability of opportunities for Latinx/ Hispanic-owned business and was a San Diego Business Journal CEO of the Year 2022 recipient.

Salas also serves on the Board of Advisors for The National Network of Depression Centers and serves as the Philanthropy Liaison on the National Charity League, San Dieguito Chapter.

She can be reached at cindy.salas@withhealth.com.





DONNA SAN MIGUEL
Executive Director of Community Relations
Cal State San Marcos

onna San Miguel is the Executive Director of Community Relations in the Office of the President at Cal State San Marcos.

Over her career at CSSM, San Miguel built a strong team in the Office of Recruitment and Outreach and was successful in conducting university outreach initiatives to support the mission of increasing enrollment within the local service area. She was part of the team that initiated the work that led to securing a grant from the California State University System and a Memorandum of Understanding for the Coalition on Black and African American Education, which increased the enrollment of Black and African American students on campus.

San Miguel is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in in the Leadership Studies Program at University of San Diego and will graduate next year, focusing on Latina identity development, leadership identity development and leadership program development.





DR. MARK SANCHEZ
Superintendent/President
Southwestern College

r. Mark Sanchez is Superintendent and President of Southwestern College.
A graduate of Southwestern himself, Dr. Sanchez has worked throughout his over 20-year career to develop and implement programs that ensure diversity, inclusion and equity among both

students and employees.

Before becoming Southwestern College's president in 2020, Dr. Sanchez served as Assistant Superintendent/Vice-President of Student Success and Support Programs at Cuesta College; Dean of Student Affairs, Counseling at Hartnell College; Dean of Student Services, Counseling at Fresno City College; and Director of Student Support Programs at San Jose Evergreen Valley College.

In addition to his Associate of Arts degree from Southwestern, Dr. Sanchez also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Point Loma Nazarene University, Master of Arts with Distinction in education administration and a doctorate in educational leadership from California State University, Fresno.

He can be reached at president@swccd.edu or 619-482-6301.





LINDA SIERRA
Senior Vice President Business Development
Bench International

inda Sierra is Senior Vice President of Business Development at Bench International.

Sierra has over 30 years in the life science industry, 18 in human resources before making the jump to executive search in 2010. In 2017, she began leading business development, focusing on VPs, C-level executives and board director assignments nartionally.

As a Latina, and often the only one at her company, Sierra is passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion and has held several symposia on the subject to raise awareness. She is also an advocate and ally for people of color and women in executive leadership.

Sierra sits on the newly formed BIOCOM Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Task Force, LifeHR Network board, is co-chair of the MANA de San Diego Advisory Council and a member of Women in Bio and Women Give San Diego.

She can be reached at lsierra@benchinternational.com or 415-918-7222.









FRED SOTELO
President/CEO
Cerveza XTECA

red Sotelo is President and CEO of Cerveza XTECA, a Latino-owned craft beer company based in San Diego.

XTECA was established in 2018 and has become a craft beer success story working its way around retail off-site and on-site for big box retailers like Walmart, Barons Market and Sprouts as well as mom-and-pop stores throughout California.

In his college years at SDSU, Sotelo founded TRIBE (Training Right in Business Education), a youth mentoring, empowerment and training program that serves students in the neighborhoods of southeast San Diego.

More recently, Sotelo has served the community as the chairman of the Board of Governors of the YMCA of San Diego County. He is also a past chairman of the Jackie Robinson YMCA, and a mayoral appointee to the City of San Diego Gang Prevention & Intervention Commission.

He can be reached at fred@cervezaxte-ca.com or 619-832-1970.





RENEE N.G. STACKHOUSE
Trial Lawyer/Owner
Stackhouse, APC

Trial lawyer Renee N.G. Stackhouse is the owner of Stackhouse, APC, a firm that focuses on helping those who have been injured and military service members with issues including administrative boards, courts-martial and discharge upgrades.

Stackhouse was the first woman to teach at the Advanced Trial Advocacy Course JAG Corps, United States Air Force. She is the first Latina president of California Women Lawyers and the second Latina President of the San Diego County Bar Association in its 123 years. She is also a past president of San Diego La Raza Lawyers and continues her involvement through its Scholarship Fund, helping the next generation of Latinx attorneys.

Stackhouse is consistently recognized for her legal acumen by her peers, receiving recognition from Super Lawyers, Best Lawyers in American, and Best Law Firms in America.

She can be reached at Renee@StackhouseAPC.com or 760-224-5226.





ALBERT VALDIVIA

Vice President

Clark Construction

A lbert Valdivia is Vice President of Clark Construction. Currently, he oversees more than \$800 million in construction projects in the San Diego area.

Valdivia entered the construction industry in San Diego 1999 as a carpenter and later returned to school to study construction management. After earning a degree in construction/general building from Arizona State University and completing several projects in Arizona, he returned to San Diego in 2007 and joined Clark Construction as a project manager.

Over the last 15 years, Valdivia has delivered more than 3 million square feet of impactful projects, from increasing efficiency at the border entry to the successful delivery of major housing, entertainment and commercial developments.

Most recently, Valdivia led the construction of Snapdragon Stadium, oversaw demolition of SDCCU stadium, and played a critical role in the site development of SDSU Mission Valley.





DANIELLE VALENCIANO

Director, Scholarships

San Diego Foundation

anielle Valenciano is Director of Community Scholarships at San Diego Foundation where she oversees the overall vision, planning, timeline and management of the San Diego Foundation Community Scholarship Program. She primarily works to develop and implement strategic direction and new fund development, as well as manage the development of the online scholarship application.

For the past two years, San Diego Foundation (SDF) has awarded a historic number of scholarships – \$3.4 million to 1,025 students (2021) and \$3.5 million to nearly 1,000 students (2022) – the vast majority to first-generation, low-income students.

Valenciano started working at SDF in May 2011, providing local nonprofit organizations with services to increase their sustainability, and served as donor manager for more than 300 nonprofit funds.

Prior to joining SDF, she worked at the Muscular Dystrophy Association, managing a health-care services program for more than 1,000 patient families.





neighborhood HEALTHCARE





Neighborhood Healthcare is proud to congratulate Alex Nuñez, Chief Growth Officer, for being recognized as one of 2022 Top 50 Latino Leaders of Influence by San Diego Business Journal!

nhcare.org

better together



RICARDO F. VILLA

President
San Diego County Imperial Valley
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Ricardo F. Villa is President of the San Diego County Imperial Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (SD-CIVHCC). He assumed the position this year and has implemented changes to the organization, including merging of Imperial Valley into the San Diego Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and rebranding as the SDCIVHCC.

Through strategic bi-national partnerships with entities like Volaris, U.S. Mexico Chamber of Commerce, COTUCO and CANACINTRA, Villa's SDCIVHCC opened untapped markets that have had a dramatic impact on the region. He also restructured outreach programs which has increased membership, resources and support for businesses in the region. These programs contributed to SDCIVHCC successes like the \$1.6 million award from the 2021 City of San Diego Small Business Relief Fund.

He can be reached at president@sdcivhcc. com or 619-985-4863.





DANITZA VILLANUEVA Co-Publisher Giving Back Magazine

anitza Villanueva is Co-Publisher of Giving Back Magazine.

Villanueva grew up on both sides of the border and uses her insight of cross-border culture to inform her business and community interests.

In addition to publishing successful magazines, including Giving Back Magazine, Villanueva has served on the the San Diego Opera's board of directors; participated in the HOPE Leadership Institute; and initiated the Día de Alegria – an annual Ronald McDonald House Charities event for the Hispanic philanthropic community.

Currently, Villanueva is serving as the first Latina chair of the Charity Ball in its 114-year history. The Charity Ball is the preeminent philanthropic and longest running event in San Diego and raises funding for Rady Children's Hospital.

Villanueva is also active with the OLP Women's Symposium, Girl Scouts San Diego and The Salvation Army San Diego.

She can be reached at danitza@gbsan.com or 619-778-2397.





HUGO VILLAR
Dean Division of Extended Studies
UC San Diego

ugo Villar is Dean Division of Extended Studies at UC San Diego.

Villar has worked at the university in various leadership roles since 2008 and over his career much of his work has lasered in on developing new programs that provide the necessary skills to maintain a vibrant workforce.

In collaboration with the San Diego Workforce Partnership, Villar was instrumental in the development of an Income Share Agreement – a new model for education financing. He also worked collaboratively in developing alternative modalities for course delivery with universities around the country and in Mexico.

Villar has published extensively on technological solutions to diverse problems in the life sciences at the interface between information technology, chemistry, and biology and believes that technology can be part of the solution to problems in higher education without neglecting the human interactions that enhance the individual experience.

UCSan Diego



ROBERT VILLAREAL

Chief External Affairs Officer, CDC Small Business Finance + Capital Impact Partners Momentus Capital, CDC Small Business Finance

Robert Villareal is Chief External Affairs
Officer at Momentus Capital – CDC
Small Business Finance & Capital Impact Partners.

He is responsible for leading policy and government affairs, forming strategic partnerships, developing grant and capital opportunities, and marketing and communications for Momentus Capital. He has served in a similar capacity for CDC Small Business Finance since 2016 and joined Capital Impact in this capacity in 2022. Previously, Villareal also led CDC Small Business Finance's Community Lending Programs. Under Villareal's leadership, the organization became the top SBA Community Advantage lender in the nation.

Villarreal serves on boards and advisory committees including the California Reinvestment Coalition, Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Union Bank and CIT Bank.

Villareal was also inaugural president and CEO of the San Diego County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 2000 to 2003.

He can be reached at rvillarreal@cdcloans. com or 619-243-8652.







MARGARITA WILKINSON SVP, General Manager Entravision Communications

argarita Wilkinson is the Senior Vice President and General Manager at Entravision, a media company that includes four broadcast channels in San Diego and Tijuana and oversees Univision, Unimas, Azteca America, Milenio and EVC Digital.

Wilkinson's dedication to the community extends beyond her work and has served on the boards of Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Red Cross, San Diego Symphony, ONE San Diego and currently the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce and The Old Globe.

Throughout her career, Wilokinson has developed multiple programs advocating for the Hispanic community, including a global initiative to bring awareness to the Hispanic community about food insecurity, and a partnership with UC San Diego to educate Hispanic families about access to higher education, support programs available at the university and the campus Latino community.

She can be reached at mwilder@entravision.com and 858-503-6535.





KENIA ZAMARRIPAExecutive Director, International

Business Affairs
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
enia Zamarripa is Executive Director of
International Business Affairs at the San
Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
where she facilitates business, political and cultural relationships across the Cali-Baja business
community and advocates for business-friendly
legislation that encourages cross-border trade
and an improved business climate.

In addition to coordinating an annual binational delegation trip to Mexico City to promote cross-border advocacy, Zamarripa also facilitates quarterly International Business Forums on current issues and emerging topics providing business leaders in the Cali-Baja region knowledge and resources needed to thrive in the binational marketplace.

Zamarripa is a featured speaker for business groups across our binational region, and the nation, discussing the dynamics of the San Diego-Tijuana border region and its economy.

She also serves on the Executive Committee of the Border Trade Alliance and as vice chair of the City of San Diego's International Affairs Board.

