



**Valle del Sol**  
INSPIRING POSITIVE CHANGE

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **VALLE DEL SOL ANNOUNCES 2009 HONOREES**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA**—a mayor, college district director, and an oncologist are a few of the honorees selected for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual *Profiles of Success* Hispanic Leadership Awards. Valle del Sol, a local nonprofit organization serving the greater Phoenix metropolitan area, announces this year's award honorees for their annual event taking place on September 11, 2009, at the Phoenix Convention Center.

*Profiles of Success* is Valle del Sol's major fundraiser to benefit behavioral health, human service and Latino leadership development programs for the community. *Profiles of Success* launches the celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month in Arizona and recognizes the many contributions of leaders for their advocacy, leadership and service to community. The premier sponsors for 2009 are *The Arizona Republic*, *12 News*, *La Voz* and *azcentral.com*.

The honoree selected for Hall of Fame is Sue Glawe, Vice President of Community Relations for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona. Avondale Mayor Marie López Rogers will be awarded with the Special Recognition Award. For the Raúl Yzaguirre Community Leadership Award, Helios Education Foundation President, Paul Luna, and his wife, Gema, a management consultant, will be the honorees. In the category of Exemplary Leadership, four individuals have been named: David Cavazos, City of Phoenix Deputy City Manager; Luis Heredia, community leader and volunteer; Tony Moya, SRP Manager of Latino Relations; and Stella Torres, Director of Maricopa ACE Programs at the Maricopa County Community College District. Delia García and Kelly Stokes, both employees from Wal-Mart, will receive the Rosa Carrillo Torres Humanitarian Award. Rosemary Ybarra-Hernández, CEO and Founder of the Águila Youth Leadership Program, and Mario E Díaz, Principal of Mario E Díaz and Associates, are the honorees for the Lorraine Lee Latino Advocacy Champion Award. For the Latino Excellence in Health and Sciences, Dr. Gordon Grado, owner of Southwest Oncology Centers of Arizona, will be the recipient. The honoree for the Latino Excellence in Athletics is the 2008 Olympic gold medal winner for freestyle wrestling Henry Cejudo.

Honoree biographies attached.

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## **2009 Profiles of Success Hispanic Leadership Awards Honorees**

### **Sue Glawe, 65, Hall of Fame Award, Phoenix**

As Vice President of Community Relations, Sue Glawe is a catalyst for philanthropic outreach on behalf of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona. Prior to joining her current employer, she served as vice president of public affairs for the Arizona Chamber of Commerce. She began her career working for the Arizona State Senate. Glawe is on the Governor's Commission for Women and Children's Health. She also serves as a board member for Florence Crittenton, Arizona Educational Foundation, Phoenix Sister Cities Commission, and is the vice chairwoman of the US Airways Education Foundation. She works with the Arizona Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Heard Museum, Phoenix Symphony, Sojourner Center, Desert Botanical Garden, Arizona Science Center and City of Phoenix Family Advocacy. Sue Glawe was the 2008 Chrysalis Honors Family Gala Honoree and in 2007 she was the recipient of the Girl Scouts' World Awards for Community Partner. Recently, she was awarded the Arizona Women's Education and Employment 'Angel Award' for her commitment to women's workforce issues. Additional awards include the Al Brooks Community Leadership Award from the Anti-Defamation League, Golden Heart of Business Award from *Arizona Woman Magazine*, and Golden Heart Award from the City of Phoenix Human Services Commission and Human Services Department. Sue Glawe's efforts in a lifetime of working with charitable organizations and support of diverse communities in Arizona have made the difference in the lives of countless individuals.

### **Honorable Marie Lopez Rogers, 60, Special Recognition Award, Avondale**

Marie López Rogers grew up working side-by-side with her parents in migrant camps surrounding Goodyear. At that time, she never realized she would one day become the first Latina Mayor of Avondale. The foundation of her leadership style is based on years of service to her community, emphasizing the integration of the Hispanic community in all West Valley communities. Marie was appointed Mayor of Avondale in January 2006 and elected Mayor in September of 2007. She previously served as a council member since 1996. Marie has been a member of several Statewide Task Forces and Commissions including the Governor' Military Affairs Commission. She serves on the Arizona Attorney General's Latino Community Justice Council, is a member of the Maricopa Association of Government's Regional Council and its executive committee. On a national level, Mayor Rogers served on the board of directors for the National League of Cities and now serves on their advisory committee. Recognizing the importance of education, she is a founding member and current president of the Hispanic Leadership Forum. Her background of service includes initiating an emergency shelter and finding transitional housing as well as helping others find employment and affordable housing. Her role models have been women who have struggled with family, work and politics, and that continue to make a positive difference in the world for their families. Mayor Marie López Rogers' faith keeps her strong; her family keeps her grounded; and her love for people keeps her hopeful.

### **David Cavazos, 49, Exemplary Leadership Award, Phoenix**

David Cavazos joined the City Manager's team in January 2005. As Deputy City Manager, he oversees the Business Customer Service Center, Development Services, Information Technology, Planning and Water Departments along with other special projects such as the ASU Downtown Campus. Formerly, David served as Acting Aviation Director at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and as an Economic Development Administrator with the City's Community and Economic Development Department. In 2005, Cavazos served as chairman of the board for the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He has also served as chairman of the Governor's Strategic Partnership for Economic Development Small Business/Minority Business Commission, the board for the Grand Canyon Minority Supplier Development Council, and Arizona Diversity Council. Currently, David is chairman of the board for Phoenix Children's Hospital, board member for the Downtown Phoenix Partnership and a member of the executive board of the Arizona-Mexico Commission. David's charitable activities include raising scholarship dollars for Hispanic students to attend ASU through the *Los Diablos* Scholarship Golf Tournament. David obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Western Illinois University in 1983 and his Masters of Science in Management and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University in 1987. Throughout his professional career, he has been an ardent advocate for minority and small businesses, community development, and

support for local community nonprofit organizations. David Cavazos is a passionate, giving and caring individual, focused on making our community a better place to live.

### **Luis Heredia, 33, Exemplary Leadership Award, Gilbert**

Luis Heredia is a native Arizonan from the Yuma area. Luis served many years in the public sector as a senior congressional aide for Congressman Raúl Grijalva. Luis was responsible for constituent and media outreach, acted as a federal liaison to major infrastructure projects, and served on numerous advisory boards. He was the director of college services for Arizona Western College and a neighborhood planner for the City of Yuma. Luis was one of ten people selected as the 10 Most Influential Hispanics of Yuma County in 2007. He was elected for two terms to the Somerton Elementary School District governing board. His father, a farm worker, taught Luis the values of perseverance, dedication and good work ethic, which in turn led him to seek higher education. He graduated from ASU in 1998 with a Bachelor's degree in History. Luis spent a year working in a Phoenix agency that helped people with immigration issues, and went on to earn a Master's degree in Public Administration from Indiana University. Luis has helped many nonprofit organizations such as Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix Zoo, STARS, and Valle del Sol. Luis Heredia exemplifies leadership by effectively getting things done for the good of others.

### **Tony Moya, 45, Exemplary Leadership Award, Phoenix**

A dynamic leader, strategic planner and trainer, Tony Moya is a knowledgeable resource for the Latino community. Tony graduated from Western International University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. In addition, he received his Certificate in Corporate Community Involvement from the Center for Corporate Citizenship at Boston College. He has more than 21 years of experience in various leadership roles at SRP and recently was promoted as Manager of Latino Relations Department. In this role, Tony carries out SRP's community involvement strategies and activities geared toward the Hispanic community. He also serves as a liaison and resource for community and nonprofit organizations by helping them to better serve and address issues within the Hispanic community. One of his main objectives and responsibilities is to foster and develop partnerships to increase enrollment rates for students in higher education programs. His efforts have led to a partnership with ASU's American Dream Academy, where parents are trained on how to become more involved with their child's education. Tony volunteers with different organizations including Valle del Sol's Hispanic Leadership Institute Advisory Board, where he serves as the chair of the selection committee, a CPLC board member, and an alum of Class of XXIII for Valley Leadership. Tony graduated from Valle del Sol's Hispanic Leadership Institute in 2001. Formerly, Tony served on the Planned Parenthood Arizona board of directors. Tony Moya is an active Latino leader with a great deal of passion for leadership development and diversity issues.

### **Stella Torres, 53, Exemplary Leadership Award, Mesa**

Stella Torres' heart and strong work ethic is a product of her upbringing in the rural Arizona copper mining town of Hayden. She has a Bachelor of Science in Family Life Studies from ASU and Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University. Her professional career began in various governmental roles as an administrative aide to the office of State Senator Luis A. Gonzales and a city council assistant to Phoenix City Councilwoman Mary Rose Wilcox. In 1987, she joined the Maricopa County Community College District as Director of the Achieving a College Education (ACE) Program at South Mountain Community College after serving as the Executive Director of the Arizona Hispanic Women's Corporation. Since that time, Stella has served as a development officer for the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, and an associate director for both Corporate and Foundation Relations and Grants and Corporate Development. Currently, she serves as the Director of Maricopa ACE Programs for all of the Maricopa Community Colleges. Her service to the community includes Pathways to Success Advisory Council for the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, Valley of the Sun United Way Flexible Funding Panel and Venture Funding Panel, board member for Central Arizona Shelter Services, Phoenix Citywide Transit Committee, and Friendly House board of directors. From 1982-1989, Stella served on the Arizona Hispanic Women's Corporation Board of Directors and chair for the National Conference in 1985 and Steering Committee in 1989. Stella Torres is an exemplary role model for people of all ages, backgrounds and regions as well as a champion for higher education.

**Dr. Gordon Grado, 55, Latino Excellence in Health & Sciences, Scottsdale**

At a very young age, Dr. Gordon Grado became interested in medicine and was fascinated with the power to heal others. Encouraged by his paternal grandfather, who emigrated from Mexico, he pursued the field of cancer therapy. He worked through nearly ten years of college and medical training to become a Radiation Oncologist. He received his M.D. degree from Southern Illinois University of Medicine in 1977 and completed his internship at the University of Chicago, followed by a residency specializing in the treatment of cancer at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. Grado is currently a dedicated team member of the University of Minnesota Radiation Oncology staff where he maintains a monthly commitment of three to four days for research and instruction at the Grado Radiation Center for Excellence. He is also an instructor at the Eastern Illinois University, where he spends time training medical students. For more than twenty years, Dr. Grado has gravitated toward leadership roles in order to create awareness about cancer treatment. Additionally, he offers mentorship opportunities to medical students at his Arizona and Mexico locations: Southwest Oncology Centers of Arizona and the Louis & Lucille Grado Centros de Radiación in Aguascalientes and the Chihuahua Centro de Cáncer. Dr. Gordon Grado is guided by a humanitarian philosophy to advance healthcare in Arizona by teaching students, researching the field of cancer therapy, and using technology to care for patients.

**Mario E Díaz, 41, Lorraine Lee Latino Advocacy Champion Award, Scottsdale**

Mario E Díaz is considered one of the top political experts in the Southwest. Mario began his career working for notable leaders like U.S. Senator Dennis DeConcini and Congressman Ed Pastor. He served as the Law Enforcement Liaison for then U.S. Attorney Janet Napolitano. Later he managed the Janet Napolitano for Attorney General Campaign and went on to become Director of Intergovernmental Affairs / Law Enforcement Liaison in the Attorney General's Office, where he advocated for law enforcement handbooks to address racial profiling. He formed Mario E Díaz & Associates in 2001. In 2002, Mario served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Janet Napolitano. Mario received his Bachelor of Science in Political Science degree from Arizona State University in 1991, and went on to receive his Masters of Public Administration degree in 1997 from ASU, where he was named Latino Graduate of the Year. After leaving the Governor's office, Mario has become a sought-after expert on community and government relations. Mario graduated from Valle del Sol's Hispanic Leadership Institute in 1993. He volunteers his time by serving on a number of boards like the Anti-Defamation League, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, and the Arizona Latino Research Enterprise. Formerly, Mario served on the Phoenix Boys Choir Latino Advisory Committee and the Governor's Latino Advisory Board. Mario E Díaz is a mentor, advisor, leader and advocate for Latinos across Arizona.

**Rosemary Ybarra-Hernández, 52, Lorraine Lee Latino Advocacy Champion Award, Phoenix**

Rosemary Ybarra-Hernández, CEO and Founder of ÁGUILA Youth Leadership Institute, is devoted to advocating for and providing Hispanic youth with the tools needed to transform their lives. Rosemary touches the lives of many individuals through the ÁGUILA Youth Leadership Institute, a college prep/access program for Hispanic youth. Rosemary obtained her Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a Certificate of Concentration in Women's Studies. Her service as Deputy City Manager of the City of Surprise allowed Rosemary to develop a program called STAR (Surprise Teens Assuming Responsibility), where teen moms could go to improve their lives, obtain their high school diploma, and set goals to make positive changes in their lives. Now, as Rosemary celebrates four successful years of the ÁGUILA Youth Leadership Institute, she reflects on the realization of knowing she has helped students overcome many challenges and prepared them to obtain a college education. After obtaining her Bachelors degree, Rosemary received her Masters in Public Administration and a doctoral degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Juvenile Justice Policy at ASU. Rosemary worked and volunteered countless hours with many organizations such as Arizona Women's Education & Employment, served on the board of Friendly House, MUJER, Hispanic Mother/Daughter Program at ASU, Girl Scouts, INROADS, Arizona Quest for Kids, Phoenix Indian Center, The WHEEL Council, City of Phoenix and Glendale Parks & Recreation, Parents Anonymous, Greater Phoenix Child Abuse Center, Children's Advocacy Council. Rosemary Ybarra-Hernández is a true example of a leader who has gone above and beyond to help youth take flight in the pursuit of higher education.

### **Paul, 46, and Gema, 46, Luna, Raúl Yzaquirre Community Leadership Award, Phoenix,**

Paul and Gema Luna have a long history of working together to make life better for all people, especially those facing poverty, racism, neglect, abuse and other social inequities. Paul, originally from Miami, Arizona, is President and CEO of the Helios Education Foundation and is responsible for guiding the strategic direction of the foundation, cultivating strong community relationships and initiating strategic partnerships. Most recently, he was President and CEO of the Valley of the Sun United Way. Paul has served on the Governor's School Readiness Board and was recognized by Valle del Sol in 2007 with the HLI Public Service Award for his role in the creation of their Hispanic Leadership Institute. Additionally, he is a member of the Center for the Future of Arizona's board of directors, Bank of Scottsdale board member, and ASU's College of Public Program's Advisory Board. Gema, originally from Superior, Arizona, recently launched her own consulting firm which specializes in strategic relationship management. Prior to that, she served as the Director of Outreach and Engagement for the ASU Foundation and was the principal development officer for the Hispanic Community Partnership Scholarship Program. Her community involvement includes board Chair for Xico, Inc., co-chair of the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's *Datos*, member of the City of Phoenix Heritage Commission, member of the SCF Arizona board of directors, and a committee member of the ASU Cesar Chavez Leadership Institute. Gema graduated from Valle del Sol's Hispanic Leadership Institute in 1987. Community work is a part of their lives, both professionally and personally. They are advocates providing a voice for all people of color as well as for the underserved in Arizona communities. Paul and Gema Luna are successful philanthropic leaders and have made a difference in the communities they serve.

### **Delia García, 37, and Kelly Stokes, 45, Rosa Carrillo Torres Humanitarian Award, Phoenix**

While Delia García and Kelly Stokes were on vacation at the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland, Delia went into labor prematurely. A gift shop worker, who was also an experienced midwife, assisted in the delivery in a private area of the facility. Baby Nicholas was born but only lived for an hour. He died en route to the hospital and was laid to rest in Drumcliffe Cemetery in Ennis, Ireland. Heartbroken, Kelly and Delia returned to Phoenix, Arizona. Though the sorrow of their loss weighed heavily on them, they were moved by the kindness shown by strangers during the most difficult time in their lives. They were determined to turn their tragedy into a blessing. Days after their return, Kelly and Delia learned of a new visitor center that was under construction at the Cliffs of Moher and there were no plans for a dedicated first aid room in the new facility. When they learned Phoenix had a long-standing Sister City relationship with Ennis, Ireland, the place where Baby Nicholas was laid to rest, the couple met with the Phoenix Sister Cities staff who initiated a dialogue with Ennis Sister City representatives regarding the establishment of a first aid facility. The idea was supported by both the local mayor and project manager who traveled to Phoenix to meet with Kelly and Delia. Delia and Kelly personally contributed as well as fundraised for the creation of the first aid room to be named in honor of Nicholas. A few months later, on February 8, 2007, the new Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience opened and Nicholas' Room became a reality. In addition to highly trained staff, Nicholas' Room includes medical equipment, wheelchairs, defibrillator, oxygen cylinders and a basic life support kit. Currently, Delia serves as a member of the Phoenix Sister Cities Commission. Delia García and Kelly Stokes turned their tragedy into a story of hope and faith; they created an opportunity to help others.

### **Henry Cejudo, 22, Latino Excellence in Athletics, Phoenix**

Henry Cejudo, the son of undocumented Mexican immigrants, became the youngest and the first U.S. freestyle wrestler in sixteen years to win an Olympic gold medal. Henry overcame many challenges to become a champion wrestler. Both he and his brother, Angel, forged their way in life through wrestling. Neither wanted to attend college despite that Henry's 150-0 record and four state high school championships could have gained him admission anywhere. They ended up in Colorado Springs at the U.S. Olympic Training Center. In the isolation of the training center in Colorado, Henry no longer has to share a bed or blanket, the things he had done all of his life with six siblings. Henry's career notes include 2007 Pan American Games champion, 2007 U.S. World Team Trials champion, two-time U.S. Nationals champion in 2006 and 2007, 2006 ASICS National High School Wrestler of the Year, and the first high school student to win U.S. Nationals since USA Wrestling became the sports national governing body in 1983. Henry is a role model for Hispanic youth around the nation, especially for those interested in the sport of wrestling. Henry Cejudo's perseverance and determination has shown the world what can be done with hope, confidence and passion.