Un mensaje de la presidenta

Estimadas Amigas,

What an honor it is to be the HWC President for the year 2015! It is a challenge I embrace and a good learning experience. The amount of work and time required of this position makes me appreciate all those who accept leadership roles and keep this organization humming.

I thank Carol Vigil, Vi Florez and Merrilee Foreman, presidents while I served on the Board, for the foundation they left in place.

I have extreme respect and admiration for Vangie Samora (Secretary) and Raqui Martinez (Treasurer) who serve year after year and are basically the backbone of the organization.

I also want to thank women who take the lead on committees starting with Leila Flores-Duñas and Carol Vigil who have been tireless in their work on the Scholarship Committee. And thanks to Vi Florez who has led the Masquerade Charity Ball Committee to raise funds for scholarships.

I applaud Elsie Sanchez and Marisa Stanford for taking the lead on two new committees. Elsie is chairing the Publicity Committee and Mari- sa is chairing the Sponsorship Committee. Thus, our visibility in the community will rise and we will raise more money for our programs.

And my sincere thanks to the membership...outstanding women from all walks of life and ranging in age from 20 to 90. Your support means a lot, and I appreciate each and every one of you.

We have a full year of exciting activities and events (listed below). I look forward to seeing you there.

Marcela Sandoval

Calendar of Events

March 27, 2015, Peña Femenina
April 25, 2015, Lenten Food Cooking Demonstration
May 3, 2015, Mother-Daughter Merienda
June 7, 2015, Santa Fe Event (Train ride & lunch)
August 2015, Family Event

Vangie Samora, Editor

The Hispanic Women’s Council is a non-profit, inter-generational, organization established in 1988 to promote, support, and create opportunities for Hispanic women.

www.nmhwccom

September 24, 2015, Meet & Greet the Scholarship Recipients
October 24, 2015, Masquerade Charity Ball
November 2015, Fall Topiary Demonstration
December 2015, Annual Christmas Party
**Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas, La Estrella Brillante**

The *Estrella Brillante* Award recognizes a woman who has given extraordinary service to HWC. This year’s awardee is Dr. Leila Flores-Duenas who was commended for creating sustaining programs and events that promote the goals of HWC.

In 2007, Dr. Flores-Duenas led the establishment of the HWC Scholarship and Mentorship Program. To date, and under her leadership, 149 scholarships, have been awarded to students at the University of New Mexico (UNM) or the Central New Mexico Community College (CNM). She also coordinates the mentorship component, assuring that every student is partnered with a faculty mentor.

To support the scholarship fund, Dr. Flores-Dueñas cofounded the ABQ *Nouveau Reta-blo™* Silent Auction featuring retablos donated by celebrated local artists. This HWC event receives enthusiastic public support.

*Peña Femenina* is another annual event she created in collaboration with Women and Creativity. This popular HWC-sponsored event showcases the talent of women poets, musicians, and dancers in our community.

Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas is an educator and entrepreneur. She is an Associate Professor, UNM College of Education, and is co-owner of Las Amapolas Event Space.

**Board Member Profiles**

**Stella Noriega** has been a member of HWC since 1999, is a past HWC board member and received the *Estrella Brillante* Award in 2013. Her career spans 35 years as a Government Contracting Consultant (now retired), Immigration Consultant, and owner of a family business, Noriega Tax Service.

Stella has been married for 46 Years to Gavino Noriega and has two children, Bridgette and Gino (both educators), two daughters-in-law and two grandchildren, Achilles and Storm, the loves of her life. Her hobbies include music, singing, and cooking old family recipes. Stella adds “I love HWC and the friendship/membership.”
Dr. Victoria Sánchez is an Associate Professor in the Public Health Program (PHP) at the University of New Mexico. She earned a B.A. in Social Work at NM Highlands University, M.P.H. at the University of California at Berkeley and Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Over the last three decades she has worked with communities, public health organizations, and schools in research designed to test, disseminate, or diffuse prevention programs in New Mexico, Texas, California and North Carolina.

Victoria’s research interests span substance abuse prevention, community capacity building, coalition effectiveness, participatory planning and evaluation processes with public health departments, and qualitative methodologies to understand community change processes.

Victoria is one of six children of Petra Tovar Sanchez and H. D. Sanchez (deceased). She is a wife, mother of one, and grandmother of two. This is Victoria’s first term on the HWC Board.

Marisa Stanford is owner of La Jolla Designs and creates one-of-a-kind jewelry featured in three boutiques in Albuquerque. She is currently employed by Catherine’s Cache in Old Town where she merchandises and sells jewelry, clothing and accessories.

Marisa has 30 years of professional experience in sales, banking, customer service, administration, management, creative design, fundraising, philanthropy, and entrepreneurship. Her recent past includes a consulting position at French Funeral Home for Advanced Planning.

Marisa is currently involved with fundraising for El Ranchito de los Niños, a children’s home in Los Lunas NM. Her past includes serving on St. Pius Foundation Board, Albuquerque Museum Board, YMCA Foundation Board, and raising money for NMAS, United Way, NM Hispanic Cultural Center and the Focus Foundation. This is Marisa’s first term on the HWC Board. She serves as Chair of the Sponsorship Committee.
The second annual Masquerade Charity Ball held on October 25, 2014, raised $7,000 for the HWC Scholarship and Mentorship Program. The event was held at the Embassy Suites and featured a reception, dinner, dance (live music by Jerry Jaramillo & the Brown River Band), ABQ Nouveau Retablo™ silent auction, and a 50/50 raffle (winner splits winnings with HWC). As is tradition, speeches were kept to a minimum so that the fun was not delayed, starting with “La marcha,” an all-inclusive parade of guests showcasing costumes.

Our sincere thanks to those of you who attended the event or purchased tickets so others could attend.

Kudos to our sponsors: French Funerals-Cremations; Presbyterian; U. S. New Mexico Federal Credit Union; Chiropractic Lifestyle Center, and Admiral Beverage Corporation.

And special thanks to the artists who donated art pieces for the silent auction: Linda Valencia, Kenny Chavez, Timoteo Jimenez, Clare Cresap Villa, Richard Bergquist, Arturo Olivas, Pamela Enriquez Courts and Jenina Carriaga Lambert.

In Memoriam: Two months after his performance at the Masquerade Ball, Jerry Jaramillo of the Brown River Band passed away. His joy for music and life is how we will remember him.

Mary Frances Santistevan & friends

Diego Rivera & Frida Kahlo (Carol Vigil & Leila Flores-Dueñas)

Elsie Sanchez & Maria Sedillo

Kim Trujillo, center, with her parents Gloria & Louis Trujillo

Mari-Luci Jaramillo & James Elliot

Petra Sanchez, Retired Public School Educator

Veronica T. Sanchez Unit Administrator UNM Extended Learning

Maria Samora Sedillo Retired, UNM

Antoinette Silva, Owner Rose’s Pottery House

Sally Skinner

Lucy Sosaya

Kim Trujillo Pharmaceutical Sales

Mary Lou Trujillo Retired, Public Health

Rosella Peña Trujillo Docent, National Hispanic Cultural Center

Vangie Valdez

Paula Vallejos

Sylvia Vigil-Raines Audience Development Director, ABQ Business First

2015 membership...cont’d
Congratulations to the 2014/2015 Scholarship Recipients

Sophia Apodaca, BS Elementary Education  Sandra E. Lara, Ph.D. History  Alicia Lopez, BS Civil Engineering
Merlyn Avila, BS Psychology  Marisa Lopez, BS Nursing  Trisha V. Martinez, Ph.D. American Studies
Gabriela Baltazar, Certified Public Accounting  Janina Muñoz, BA Spanish & Psychology  Carla Nieto, BBA Business/Accounting
Laurene Barela, Executive MBA  Fabiola Perez, MS Pharmacy  Karen Perez, BS Nursing
Leticia Cuevas, BA Early Childhood  Alyssa Cruz, Doctor of Pharmacy  Rosa Reyes, BS Family Studies
Alyssa Cruz, Doctor of Pharmacy  Aurora Cruz, MA Elementary/Bilingual Educ.  Tania Ruiz-Maya, Doctor of Medicine
Jacquelyn Garcia, BS Speech & Hearing Sciences  Yvonne Grimes, Juris Doctorate  Lucretia R. Vigil, BS Biology/Psychology
Sophia Apodaca, BS Elementary Education  Sandra E. Lara, Ph.D. History  Alicia Lopez, BS Civil Engineering
Merlyn Avila, BS Psychology  Marisa Lopez, BS Nursing  Trisha V. Martinez, Ph.D. American Studies
Gabriela Baltazar, Certified Public Accounting  Janina Muñoz, BA Spanish & Psychology  Carla Nieto, BBA Business/Accounting
Laurene Barela, Executive MBA  Fabiola Perez, MS Pharmacy  Karen Perez, BS Nursing
Leticia Cuevas, BA Early Childhood  Alyssa Cruz, Doctor of Pharmacy  Rosa Reyes, BS Family Studies
Alyssa Cruz, Doctor of Pharmacy  Aurora Cruz, MA Elementary/Bilingual Educ.  Tania Ruiz-Maya, Doctor of Medicine
Jacquelyn Garcia, BS Speech & Hearing Sciences  Yvonne Grimes, Juris Doctorate  Lucretia R. Vigil, BS Biology/Psychology

About the Scholarship Fund...and how you can help

With the establishment of the scholarship fund in 2007, the Hispanic Women’s Council (HWC) is creating a legacy of educating Hispanic women, moving them into professions, and enabling them to become valuable leaders in our community. What distinguishes the HWC Scholarship is an emphasis on continuing Latina students and a mentorship component. To be eligible, students must have completed credit hours and be currently admitted at the University of New Mexico or the Central New Mexico Community College. Since its inception, the HWC has awarded 149 scholarships totaling $59,200 to undergraduate, graduate and PhD students.

The HWC Scholarship Committee members are: Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas, Dr. Irene Vasquez, Rosalee Montoya, Carol Vigil, Marcela Sandoval, and Dr. Vi Florez. These committed volunteers do the work of soliciting applications, reading applications, and awarding scholarships to deserving students.

To support this program, please send your tax-deductible donation to HWC, P. O. Box 27271, Abq., NM 87125. Another way to support this program is to attend and/or become a sponsor of the annual Masquerade Charity Ball. To discuss becoming a sponsor, please contact Marisa Stanford at marisastanford@aol.com or go to our website to access a form: www.nmhwc.com.
A Review of 2014

When I became president in 2014, my goal was to grow the membership by offering engaging events throughout the year where women can stay connected, learn from each other and celebrate accomplishments.

During 2014, we hosted three Mitote Power Hours, our signature networking event. In April we met at Garduno’s for happy hour, and in June, enjoyed a garden party hosted by Mary Frances Santistevan in her beautiful backyard. In August we gathered at the Sawmill Lofts to hear from special guest speaker Rebecca Avitia, Executive Director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center.

The annual Peña Femenina was held in March at the ArtBar Downtown. As always, Carol Vigil and Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas, the event organizers, brought together an eclectic lineup of talented women artists: E. Christina Herr (western gothic), Asiliani (hip-hop), Indigie Femme (folk ‘n roll global), and Las Flores del Valle (New Mexico Tex). And the ever-popular annual Mother-Daughter Brunch, held in May, allowed us to honor women who have enriched our lives. It featured a silent auction and a stunning fashion show by two local shops, Articles for Her and Gee Loretta.

In the Fall, the Scholarship Program took center stage with the Scholarship Recipient Meet & Greet held in September and the Masquerade Charity Ball held in October. At the Meet & Greet, we met the 2014/2015 HWC scholarship recipients and heard inspiring testimonials from the students about how their partnership with HWC is making a difference in their lives. Many of these students and their guests attended the Masquerade Charity Ball held to raise funds for the scholarship. I am proud to say that in 2014 we raised over $6,000 for the Scholarship Fund.

We closed out the year with the annual Christmas Party held at Las Amapolas Event Space courtesy of Carol Vigil and Leila Flores-Dueñas. We enjoyed delicious food provided by the board of directors and Las Posadas led by Las Flores del Valle.

Another project I committed to is the upgrading of the HWC website by enlisting the help of a website designer. This work started in late 2014 and will be completed in 2015.

I thank the board of directors for their support and for their dedication to HWC. Together we carried out an ambitious year of activities that resulted in growing the membership by more than 30 percent over the previous year. I am proud to be a part of this legacy. And thank you to the members of HWC who responded by attending and participating. The photos on the next page are a sampling of the good times had by all. Enjoy!

Dr. Merrilee Foreman
2014 HWC President

Exito y Más

Victoria Sanchez, DrPH, has been awarded tenure and been promoted to Associate Professor in the Public Health Program (PHP) at the University of New Mexico. Theresa Cardenas has been accepted to the Harvard Kennedy School Program on Organizing and Leading Change. She is a consultant to the Union of Concerned Scientists Climate and Energy program working to address climate change. Felicidades to Carol Vigil and Leila Flores-Duenas on the opening of Las Amapolas Event Space, a place to host family celebrations and artist performances. Congratulations to Las Mujeres on celebrating “33 years of accomplishments and friendships” at a March 6, 2015, reunion where co-founders Helen Fresquez Garcia and Angie Gonzales Carver were recognized.
Rebecca Avitia, Executive Director of the NM Hispanic Cultural Center (seated center) was our guest speaker at the August Mitote Power Hour.

Dr. Diane Torres-Velasquez stands behind her mother, Raquel Velasquez, and her two sisters, Kathy Coffey (left) and Dr. Linda Renner (right).

Yvonne Grimes (HWC scholarship recipient) & daughter Caitlynn.

Jo Martinez & Philly Carrasco.

Marcela Sandoval with her Daughters Francela Valdez & Lorina Gifford.

Dr. Teresita Aguilar (standing, second from right) brought a contingent from NM Highlands University.

Rebecca Avitia, Executive Director of the NM Hispanic Cultural Center (seated center) was our guest speaker at the August Mitote Power Hour.

Angie Gurule-Vergo, Elsie Sanchez & Cyndie Abeyta.
Become a member and receive:

- Newsletters
- Discounted or free admission to educational & social events
- Access to a network of dynamic women in business, political, corporate, educational, and community positions.

Plus, you will enjoy the support of “comadres” and have lots of fun! Use form below.

**HWC 2014 Membership Form**

Date: _______________________________

___ Renewal    ___ New Member

**Membership Levels:**

___ $30 Student
___ $40 Seniors (55+)
___ $65 Individual

___ $115 *Patrocinadora*

OR

___ $90 Business/Professional
   (includes 2 members)*

___ $140 Corporate
   (includes 3 members)*

*Please provide a separate form for each business or corporate member.

**Please print:**

Name ___________________________________________________

Title ____________________________________________________

Organization/Profession __________________________________

Address _________________________________________________

City _____________________________ State _____ Zip____________

Phone (H) _____________________ (W) _______________________

Cell____________________________________________________

Email ____________________________________________________

Please print, complete and mail this form to HWC, P. O. Box 27271, Albuquerque, NM 87125. HWC membership begins in January and expires in December; however, membership dues are accepted throughout the year.