



Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.
2500 Calvert St NW, Washington, DC 20008

26TH ANNUAL PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

8:00 AM **Breakfast** | Palladium Ballroom

Registration | Outside of Diplomat Room

Plenary | Diplomat Room

9:00 AM **Welcome**
Domingo Garcia, LULAC President

9:15 AM **Keynotes**

- *Congressman Maxwell Frost, Florida's 10th District
- Honorable Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security

*Order TBD

Policy Sessions

10:10 AM (50 mins)

Latinos y la Salud: Health and Nourishment in Our Community | Senate Room
Authorities in the field and related advocacy will impart their insights on the intersection of Latinos and health. We are aware that Hispanics disparately suffer from such major afflictions as heart and kidney disease, diabetes and obesity, even COVID-19, to name a few. Panelists will elaborate on these, and on tools and resources available in order to navigate affordable health care. As well as challenges to accessing proper or preventive care as a result of language barriers, and income inequality.

- [Moderator] Douglas LeBlanc, Jr., MPH, Public Health Advisor, District of Columbia Department of Health – Community Health Administration Bureau of Cancer & Chronic Disease Prevention
- Dr. Omar Escontrías, Senior Vice President of Equity, Research & Programs, National Health Council

- Jillien Meier, Managing Director in Program Partnerships & Strategy Development, Share our Strength
- Dr. Adrianna Nava, President, National Association of Hispanic Nurses

Immigration State of Play: La Lucha Adelante | Cabinet Room

What is the future of immigration given the composition of the 118th Congress? And looking ahead to the 2024 elections? This discussion will trace where we are today on topics such as DACA, pending Title 42 litigation, and other related developments on this major policy topic. The panel will recognize inherited, as well as new challenges that have surfaced with a new Congress. Immigration experts will discuss legislative efforts affecting immigrants. And, importantly, the roadmap for 2023 and beyond.

- [Moderator] Lydia Guzman, Director of Advocacy and Engagement, Chicanos Por La Causa
- Eddie Taveras, Political Director - Immigration Campaigns, Fwd.us
- Dr. Mara J. Queiroz Vaughn, USCIS Citizenship Ambassador, LULAC Dallas #272 President, and UNT Dallas Program Director

11:10 (50 mins)

Empowering Our Small Businesses to Thrive in the 21st Century | Senate Room

Small businesses are the bedrock of the American economy and spirit: accounting for 99% of all businesses in the U.S. (i.e., businesses with 500 or fewer employees), and make up approximately 50% of our GDP. Moreover, small business owners contribute to their communities in immense ways. This panel will explore the economic landscape of Latino small businesses in America, particularly in light of, and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the panel will present how small businesses can qualify for federal government support ahead of May 2023, when the COVID-19 declaration is set to lift.

- [Moderator] Brayan Rosa-Rodríguez, Senior Economic Policy Analyst, UnidosUS
- Sobella Ayuso, Vice President for Banking Business Development Manager, JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- Ricardo Rocha, Founder and President, Bondadosa
- Jeff Stout, Director, U.S. Department of Treasury – Office of Federal Program Finance

Your Stories Are Our Stories: Historias Compartidas | Cabinet Room

Latinos account for 20% of the population, yet are disproportionately underrepresented in certain sectors (e.g., media and the federal workforce), and over-represented in others (e.g., agriculture, construction, and service sector industries). As we inch closer to becoming the majority demographic by 2050, it is imperative that whatever walk of life we come from – we feel empowered to tell our story. This panel will highlight three LULAC leaders in their own right, and their poignant life journeys that led them to advocate for our 65-million-person-strong familia.

- [Moderator] Liz Mahar, Director of Advocacy & Strategic Alliances, PhRMA
- Delma Gorostieta, LULAC Vice President for Young Adults
- Winter Snitz-Meza, LULAC National Deputy Director of Policy & Legislation
- Madeleine F. Wallace, Ph.D., CEO, Windrose Vision

12:00 PM Lunch | Palladian Room

1:40 PM (50 mins)

The State of Nuestras Familias: Uvalde, How Tragedy Shapes Us, and Where Our Next Generaciones Go From Here. . . | Senate Room

Pulse Nightclub (Orlando) 2016; El Paso 2019; Uvalde 2022. . . These are the tragedies that in recent memory have most traumatized our community. Among them, ranks the worst attack on Latinos in modern history. Today, research is revealing the impact that gun violence is having on our youngest generations. This panel will examine the depth of that trauma on our community and our families' collective psyches. The panel will engage in meaningful conversation with respect to gun legislation reform, and, importantly, the reality of how one community is reckoning with the unimaginable.

- [Moderator] Xochitl Oseguera, Vice President, MomsRising / MamásConPoder
- Javier Cazares, Father of Robb Elementary School student the late Jacklyn Cazarez (Age 9)
- Jose Alfaro, Director of Latinx Leadership & Community Engagement, Everytown for Gun Safety
- Nancy Duchesneau, Senior P-12 Research Associate, The Education Trust

I Pledge Allegiance to Mental Health: The Brandon Act and Protecting Our Frontline Warriors | Cabinet Room

Latinos are largely underrepresented across federal government and agencies, except in the military (recent data shows that more than 17% of active-duty personnel are Hispanic). Servicemembers' dedication to protecting our homeland comes with a steep commitment; physically and mentally. In light of recent headlines surrounding military suicides correlated with the unwarranted stigmas around the reporting of bullying, harassment, and the serious effects to mental health therein – this discussion will center on providing and update on implementation of the Brandon Act. Namely, its intent and impact on the battle against the inequities in mental health support facing Latino military members. As well as related mental health treatment and resources for Veterans who leave the service.

- [Moderator] Roman Palomares, Chairman, LULAC Military & Veterans Affairs Committee
- Teri Caserta, Mother of the late U.S. Navy Petty Officer Brandon Caserta
- Dr. James A. Helis, Director, U.S. Army – Resiliency Directorate
- Dr. Matthew Miller, Executive Director of Suicide Prevention, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

2:40 PM **LULAC National President's Town Hall** | Diplomat Room

(50 mins)

Join LULAC's National President as he expands upon the state of Latino America in a question-and-answer style forum with audience members from across the country.

- Domingo Garcia, LULAC President

3:40 PM **Advocacy Training** | Diplomat Room

(50 mins)

The next iteration of LULAC young professional leaders is making its mark. Hear

from one up-and-coming changemaker in this Congressional advocacy training geared for those who wish to learn about how to successfully approach lawmakers' offices. This training is highly encouraged for those partaking in Capitol Hill Advocacy Day.

- José Gaona, National Policy & Advocacy Manager, HECHO

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

9:00 AM Press Conference

9:20 AM Meet in Lobby to Depart for Capitol Hill Advocacy Day

10:00 AM Capitol Hill Advocacy Day

1:00 PM Capitol Hill Group Photo | U.S. Capitol East Side (Above Visitor Center)

3:00 PM

Growing Your Council Membership, and LULAC Programs to Benefit Your Communities | Executive Room

LULAC Leaders will provide helpful knowledge about growing your council's impact. As well as the types of programs that are available to members, how to apply, and therefore uplift your communities

- Rafaela Schwan, LULAC Interim Chief Operating Officer
- Priscilla Garcia, LULAC Programs Manager
- Leonard Gonzales, LULAC Council #3274

5:00 PM Gala Registration | Outside of Diplomat Room

6:00 PM Pre-Gala Reception | Ambassador Ballroom

VIP Pre-Gala Reception | Diplomat Room

7:00 PM 26th Annual LULAC Legislative Awards Gala | Regency Ballroom