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**EMERGE**  
HYBRID *Latino*  
*Conference*  
LULAC.ORG



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**Emerge Latino Conference Agenda**

Wednesday, March 16 to Friday, March 18, 2022  
Washington, D.C.

*\*Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required to attend in-person per local guidelines.*

Updated March 15, 2022

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*Wednesday, March 16*

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**Hamilton Hotel Washington, DC**

1001 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

2:45 PM - 5:00 PM

***Emerge Community Service Project***

*Location: Oval*

Join LULAC and ***Say Yes to the Dress!*** as we work with Washington DC area youth to say ***Yes to the Prom!***, a day that promotes confidence for deserving high school students. Say Yes to the Prom, invites a group of high-schoolers to enjoy a day of prom dress or tuxedo shopping, makeovers and mentoring.

6:30 PM

Registration Opens

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

***Welcome & Networking Power Hour***

*Location: Hamilton Ballroom*

LULAC leadership, Members of Congress, and other government leaders will open the EmERGE conference and offer insight into what to expect during the next two days. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow EMERGE attendees and LULAC leaders from around the country to build relationships, advance their careers and make an impact in the community.

***Featured Speakers:***

**Emcee:** Andres Rodriguez, National VP for Young Adults

Sindy M. Benavides, LULAC Chief Executive Officer

Domingo Garcia, LULAC National President

Lauren Reyes, Deputy White House Liaison, U.S. Department of Labor

Isabel Aldunate, Deputy Communications Director at The White House

Office of Management and Budget

Roberto Rosas, Graduate Student, University of Cambridge / Policy Advisor, GSA

**Special Guests:** Congresswoman Sylvia R. Garcia, D-TX, 29th District

Congressman Adriano Espaillat, D-NY, 13th District

Congresswoman Veronica Escobar D-TX, 16th District

**Sponsor Remarks:** Jose E. Sanchez, Deputy Director of Research and Development, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Washington, DC. U.S. Army

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*Thursday, March 17*

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**AT&T Forum for Technology, Entertainment & Policy**

601 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Registration

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

***Setting the Agenda and National Platform***

The Emerge Latino Conference brings together collegiate students and young professionals to underscore issues that affect diverse Latino communities from across the nation. The platform development session provides conference attendees a forum to initiate dialogs, share experiences, and present on issues that impact their home communities.

***Presented by:*** The LULAC Policy Team

***Featured Speakers:***

Lauren Donahue, McDaniel LULAC Alum

Art Motta, LULAC National Director of Policy

10:00 AM – 10:10 AM

Break

10:10 AM – 11:00 AM

***Agents of Change: Advocacy Training and Material Distribution***

This presentation will explain how the best citizen advocates research their Members of Congress; use their Members' profiles to adjust their communications with those Members; and connect the dots between issues advocates care about to those that their Members care about.

***Presented by:*** The LULAC Policy Team

**Featured Speakers:** Art Motta, LULAC National Director of Policy

11:00 AM – 11:10 AM

Break

11:10 AM – 12:00 PM

**Workshop: Managing Difficult Conversations on Bias and Equity**

As we have navigated a global pandemic for the past two years, Latinos have seen first hand the role that health equity plays in education equity and economic opportunity. The lack of access to healthcare, access to vaccines and access to a safe working environment creates a situation where someone without access to proper healthcare has to decide between putting themselves in high-risk situations to get an education or economic opportunities, or they try to protect their health at the potential cost of education or economic opportunity. Our panel of experts discuss improving a system to provide equitable access to healthcare, economic opportunities, and education for Latinos.

**Moderator:** Jasmin Chavez, LULAC Virginia State Director

**Featured Speakers:**

Gustavo Torrez, Director of Youth Advocacy for the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Aric DeAguero, Director Service at CSAA Insurance Group

Mercedes Eggleton Garcia, VP of Community Relations, Master Your Card

All of Us Speaker, TBD

12:00 PM - 12:10 PM

Break

12:10 PM – 12:15 PM

**State of Latino America Summit Welcome & Opening Remarks**

**Featured Speakers:**

Domingo Garcia, LULAC National President

Sindy M. Benavides, LULAC Chief Executive Officer

Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

12:15 PM

**Technology & Innovation Luncheon: Broadband in America: The Impact to the Growing Latino Communities**

Internet access is an essential asset needed in today's world for accessing resources, economic opportunities, education and necessary services.

This panel will focus the conversation on the importance of driving solutions to ensure all communities, including those in urban and rural areas, have access to affordable high speed internet access.

**Presented by:** AT&T

**Moderator:** Art Motta, LULAC National Policy & Legislative Director

**Featured Speakers:**

Celeste Carrasco, Director of Public Affairs, AT&T

Alejandro Roark, Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

Rosa Mendoza Dávila, Founder, President and CEO, ALLvanza

Caroline Crozier, LULAC National Committee on Innovation & Technology

1:15 PM

**Fireside Chat: The Importance of Universal Service Fund (USF) in Creating Access**

*Featured Speaker:* Caroline Van Wie, Vice President, Federal Regulatory, AT&T

1:30 PM

**Algorithms, AI and Future of Technology: Why Diversity Matters**

The rapid expansion of emerging technologies, the role of algorithms, and artificial intelligence have major impacts on our everyday lives and in the workplace, which is why the lack of diversity among the humans developing such tools is concerning for the Latino community. This panel will discuss the importance of promoting diversity to overcome biases instead of perpetuating them, with guidance from the humans who design, train, and refine its systems – a vital component for the future of responsible technology.

*Moderator:* TBD

*Featured Speakers:*

Clint Odom, Vice President of Strategic Alliances & External Affairs, T-Mobile

Jackie Puente, Associate Vice President, External Affairs, Comcast Corporation

2:15 PM

**Cafecito Dialogue: The State of Puerto Rico, Why it Matters & Why It's a Civil Rights Issue in America**

Under the current territory status, close to 3.2 million U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico can and do get treated unequally under various federal laws and programs which inherently limit Puerto Rico's Economic Development and access to essential federal funding for programs such as infrastructure investments, Medicaid/Medicare, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the Child Tax Credit, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. This panel will discuss efforts, collaborations, and initiatives which collectively seek to improve the lives and communities of the residents of Puerto Rico.

*Opening Remarks:* Congressman Darren Soto, Florida's 9th Congressional District

*Moderator:* Maria Cardona, Principal, Dewey Square Group

*Featured Speakers:*

Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón, Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico

Hon. José "Quiquito" Meléndez-Ortiz, At-large member of the Puerto Rico House of Representatives

Jeffrey Farrow, Consultant, AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

Lucas Martinez, Senior Advisor, LULAC

- 3:00 PM **Covid-19: Health Disparities, Disinformation & Activism**  
 COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on communities of color, and Latinos have been hit particularly hard. In this session you will hear from leading medical professionals who will dispel myths about the vaccine, corporations who are increasing access and from advocates who are working to ensure communities of color make informed decisions based on factual information.
- Moderator:** David Cruz, LULAC Communications Director  
**Featured Speakers:**  
 Marvin Figueroa, Director of Office of Intergovernmental & External Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)  
 Sandra Caraveo, National Director of Programs, LULAC
- 3:50 PM Closing Remarks
- Featured Speakers:** Rep. Raul Ruiz, Chair, Congressional Hispanic Caucus (Invited)
- 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Break
- 5:30 PM Emerge Student Check-In for Gala  
*Location: Franklin Room A and B*
- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Reception for the Legislative Awards Gala
- 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM **LULAC Legislative Awards Gala\***  
*Location: Schuyler Grand Ballroom, Hamilton Hotel Washington, DC 1001 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005*
- Awardees:**  
 Secretary Miguel Cardona, LULAC National Service Award  
 Secretary Deb Haaland, LULAC Freedom and Justice Award  
 Mayor of San Juan, Puerto Rico Miguel Romero, LULAC National Service Award  
 Congressman Seth Moulton, Massachusetts' 6th Congressional District, LULAC National Legislative Award  
 Congresswoman Norma Torres, California's 35th Congressional District, LULAC National Legislative Award  
 Roman Palomares, National LULAC Service Awards  
 Leonard Gonzales, National LULAC Service Awards  
**Entertainment:** Verny Varela Salsa Band
- \*Ticketed event  
 \*\*Must present a valid ID with date of birth and full name to consume any alcoholic beverages.

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*Friday, March 18*

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**Hamilton Hotel Washington, DC**  
1001 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

- 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast  
*Location: Franklin Park*
- 8:50 AM – 9:00 AM Opening Remarks
- 9:00 AM – 9:50 AM ***The New Generation of Elected Officials: Running for Office Grassroots Training***  
*Location: Franklin Park AB*  
With more than 60 million Latinos in the United States, our communities continue to be disproportionately underrepresented in federal, state, and local governments. Learn the ABCs of a political campaign, filing, fundraising, building a field plan, getting endorsements and communications training.  
  
***Moderator:*** Elizabeth Zepeda  
***Featured Speakers:***  
Victoria Virasingh, Community Organizer & Candidate for Congress, Virginia District 08
- 10:00 AM – 10:50 AM ***Professional Development Workshop***  
*Location: Franklin Park AB*  
Join our career prep volunteers and experts in getting you ready for your next job searching strategy. Our expert will provide tips on polishing your resume, an opportunity to conduct a mock interview, updating or establishing your professional headshots, and meet potential employers.  
\*Please be sure to bring a printed copy with you  
  
***Moderators:*** Sandra Caraveo, Director of Programs, LULAC & Melissa Cossio, Community & Workforce Development Program Manager, LULAC  
  
***Career Fair***  
*Location: Hamilton Ballroom*
- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Closing & Next Steps  
***Featured Speakers:***  
Andres Rodriguez, National VP for Young Adults  
Sarah Aleman, President of McDaniel LULAC  
Jasmin Guajardo, President Channel Islands LULAC  
Mark Madrid, Associate Administrator, U.S SBA (Invited)

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*Tuesday, March 22 to Wednesday, March 23*

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Appointment Times Vary

Virtual Hill Visits