



A letter from Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc. President,

I hope you are having a wonderful day and have enjoyed your Christmas holiday with family and friends.

I wanted to refresh your memory about Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc. non-profit, non-partisan, and all volunteer organization. In 1989 was known as Viva Mexico and incorporated in 1996 to Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc. Our focus is on education for Latino students seeking a higher education, promoting employment possibilities, and partnering with organizations to build community support.

Mission statement

Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-partisan, and an all-volunteer organization. Our focus is on education and promoting employment prospects. We want to provide educational scholarships for Latino students for those seeking a higher education.

Since 1989 we have brought a wealth of awareness to promote cultural diversity, highlighted educational programs and participate in social events. Our vision is to empower our community with understanding their needs and acquiring the assistance they need with opportunities.

Educational forums:

Sus Derechos Civiles en Iowa

The Empowerment of the Latina into the Millennium

Des Moines University on Diversity in the Workplace Speech

The need to be bilingual/linguistic Speech.

Small Business Bilingual Workshop

Intranet and Web page Bilingual Workshop

Financial Workshop

Why do you need insurance for your Car, Home, Apartment Bilingual Workshop

Federal/Postal Bilingual pre-test Workshop

Spanish Classes elementary, middle schools and High Schools - Individual from that particular country went dressed and gave speech

Held Workshop at ISU - What is Latinos Unidos

Gave classes on how to make piñatas & paper flowers

Colores Y Expresiones Latinos Mural at the Des Moines Botanical Center

Sponsored Ray Suarez, NPR radio personality

Festival of Trees display

Bilingual Voter Registration Workshop

The importance of Voting Workshop

Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Newton Iowa

Resources lists: translators; Spanish speaking attorneys, dentists, doctors, baby sitters, realtors

Provided assistance in Public areas

Latino Resource Fairs

Opportunities

Scholarships 5 \$1,000.00

Feria de Trabajos/Latino Job Fairs twice a year

Job placement workshop

Latinos Unidos members participated in; What are the benefits, challenges and opportunities associated with living in Des Moines?

Coffee Tasting event

Bedding, Clothing, furniture provided for families

Social Forums:

Cinco de Mayo fiesta

16 de Septiembre Fiesta

Summer in the City Booth

Latinos Unidos Family picnic

Sponsor one Latino Family at Christmas

Easter Egg Hunt

Farmers Market

State Fair Parade

Latinos Unidos of Iowa Parades

Participated in the American Philippine Festival

El Mercado

Salsa Contest

Scholarship award Ceremony

Future 2004 events:

Public Library Bilingual Storytelling

Latino Film festival

A vision of Latino Art at the Malls September 2004 to October 2004

"El Mercado" 2004 Latinos Unidos Fiesta

Provide a conference in April 2005 "Education Bridges to Employment"

2006 -2018

Latino Resource Fairs

Lunch & Learns

Collaborated as vendors and hosting sites

Evelyn Davis Center

Matching Scholarship Sponsors

Central College

DMACC

Grand View University

Mercy Health & Sciences College

Simpson College

Voter Registration

La Primavera

Latino Resource Fair

Scholarship Award Ceremony and dinner

Radiothon Scholarship Fundraiser

Suenos y Futuros Scholarship Fundraiser

Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc. was instrumental in providing support to a family of 5 to seek asylum from Guatemala. They have made Iowa their home, became citizens, sought

employment, graduated from high school, and have attended Iowa colleges. We have provided a host of letters of support to the Consulate of Mexico in Omaha and other consulates on behalf of their good standing.

In 1989, Matt Rosen, Horticultural manager at the Des Moines Botanical Center inquired if a group of family and friends could host a Cinco de Mayo event due to the time limitation. The group suggested September 16th, and this is how we began to build a 34-year success. Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc. has contributed to many different events throughout the years although many are mentioned in this letter many have been omitted.

These are 34 years of wonderful experiences and love that has been put forth to make it a success. In 2023, we received 130 scholarship applications and were only able to award \$23. The 23 scholarship recipients were awarded associate, bachelor, and graduate degrees, law, medical school professional and technical specialty fields of study. The success of future of our Latino students and ours depends on your generosity and support.

We hope you will join us to become a member, volunteer, and help us build the on the scholarship program, other programs, and events in store for the future. Please do keep in mind as a 501(c)3 organization your donation is deductible.

Sincerely,

Lena Avila Robison
Founder and President
Latinos Unidos of Iowa, Inc.
lowalatina12@live.com
515-979-0770