



**Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.**

A PROMISE OF OPPORTUNITY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 21, 2011

Contact: María Jesús Cervantes  
Director of Media and Communications  
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.  
(602) 257-0700 ext. 2120  
(602) 622-5502 cell  
mariajesus.cervantes@cplc.org

**CPLC Reveals the Winners of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards**

*Teachers from Across the State will be Honored on October 20<sup>th</sup>*

Phoenix—Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) has recognized talented educators in the Maricopa County area since 1998. For the first time, CPLC expanded the Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards to a statewide recognition award program. Nominations of teachers from across Arizona whom have devoted their lives to serve their community and to help future generations find a path to success were evaluated. CPLC is proud and excited to announce, that after a careful review and a rigorous selection process, the following extraordinary educators were selected as the 2011 Esperanza Latino Teacher Award recipients:

- **Richard Alvarez, Payson High School- Payson, AZ**
- **Juan Carbajal, Rosemarie Rivera Elementary School- Tucson, AZ**
- **Sofía P. Gámez, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado Elementary School- Nogales, AZ**
- **Irma Regalado, Peoria High School- Peoria, AZ**

Their peers, community and business leaders will pay tribute to these fine educators on Thursday, October 20, 2011 at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards Ceremony, presented by SRP and Cox Communications, at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown. This event continues to be the only awards program in Arizona that specifically recognizes Latino teachers.

“This is certainly an important milestone on our quest to bring the well-deserved recognition to the work of Latino teachers in Arizona,” said Edmundo Hidalgo, President and CEO of CPLC. “After 13 years, we are proud to have the opportunity to honor excellent educators who serve communities throughout Arizona.”

With the gracious support of our sponsors, CPLC will be awarding a special stipend to each of the four honorees and a cash donation of \$2,500 to their respective schools. In addition, each teacher will receive a 50% scholarship towards a masters or doctoral program at Argosy University and other prizes.

Throughout the history of the awards program, CPLC has recognized over 95 outstanding Latino educators willing to go the extra mile to make a difference, not only in their classrooms, but also within the communities they serve.

To learn how to support this program and for sponsorship opportunities for the event, please contact Priscilla Valencia at [events@cplc.org](mailto:events@cplc.org) or call (602) 257-0700.

---

*Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) is a statewide community development corporation committed to building stronger, healthier communities as a lead advocate, coalition builder and direct service provider. The organization promotes positive change and self-sufficiency to enhance the quality of life for the benefit of those we serve.*

###