

Troyano News

March 2023



A Time to Celebrate!

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This time of year is always exciting for us! A few weeks ago, we celebrated a sold-out 48th Scholarship Gala, where we recognized Trojans who identified ways to enact change in the world and did it. We are also gearing up to celebrate the 130 graduating scholars who will join the ranks of other alumni as they complete their studies at USC. We are certainly proud!

Thank you for your continued support. We are pleased to share opportunities for deeper engagement and professional growth via one of our committees (see "Get Involved with LAA by Joining One of Our Committees!" below). These focus on specific program areas of the USC LAA and provide alumni and friends with an opportunity to work alongside our board and Corporate Advisory Council members.

The USC LAA turns 50 this year, and we are excited to celebrate with all of you. Stay tuned for details about upcoming events!

Fight On!

Mercy Willard EdD '21
Executive Director
USC Latino Alumni Association



Help Us Reach Our Text-to-Donate Campaign Goal!

The 48th Scholarship Gala celebration, which shined a spotlight on three exemplary undergraduate seniors, saw the launch of a text-to-donate campaign to help us continue our mission: providing merit and need-based financial scholarships. Help us attain our goal by **texting SCLAA to 71777**, or simply **donate online!** Please take a moment to enjoy the gala **photos**, as well as the **program book** and **gala tributes!**

Join Our Scholarship Application Review Committee

Each year, the USC LAA receives scholarship applications from prospective and continuing USC students. We are calling for volunteers to help us review the 2023-24 applications. If interested, please register for the **virtual training session (Wednesday, April 5, 5:00-6:30 PDT)**. The session is mandatory in order to receive credentials to access the application review portal.



Get Involved with LAA by Joining One of Our Committees!

Calling all Trojans and friends! Join a USC LAA committee and work alongside our board members. Opportunities include marketing, engagement and fundraising. Each committee is led by a chairperson and focuses on a specific programming or functional area. **Volunteer today!**

Vanessa Delgado MPA '00 on Breaking Barriers in Commercial Real Estate

USC Price School alum **Vanessa Delgado** was a panelist at USC Price's 5th annual Women in Real Estate Luncheon on March 1. She addressed the challenges she faced as a young mother, and her unexpected career path as a commercial real estate entrepreneur.

Stay Connected

Sign up for our emails and e-newsletters, and join us for upcoming in-person and virtual programs!

Troyano Spotlights

2023 LEGACY AWARD
Carmen L. Herrera '89
Entrepreneur, Vida for Vitality

Carmen is an entrepreneur, CPA and founder of "Vida for Vitality," a health and community-focused juice enterprise. This award recognizes her professional and personal achievements, dedication to the Latino community, and service to USC.



2023 DR. JOHN R. HUBBARD RECOGNITION AWARD
Luis Wualdemar Tun Orozco

Luis is a first-generation, low-income, indigenous Mayan immigrant, and an LGBTQ+ pre-law student. At USC, he has been vice president of the USC Alumni Association's Society 53 and a recipient of a USC Dornsife Fisher Fellowship, among other accomplishments. This award recognizes a graduating student for their academic achievement, leadership and community service.



Troyano News is the e-newsletter of the **USC Latino Alumni Association (LAA)**, comprised of USC alumni, students and friends who work together to provide scholarship support and professional development for Latino students, as well as engagement and networking opportunities for Latino Trojans. Please **email us** if you have comments or questions.

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