

40TH ANNIVERSARY
WOMEN *of the* YEAR

COMMEMORATIVE RUBY CELEBRATION GALA

“Moving Forward Together”

WOMEN EDUCATING AND INSPIRING GENERATIONS

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026

THE BILTMORE LOS ANGELES

506 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90071



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
CELEBRATING 50 Years OF ADVOCATING FOR THE LIVES AND WELL-BEING OF WOMEN

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Event Sponsor

Congratulations!

In celebration of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women's 50 years of advocacy and service, we congratulate this year's honorees, **including our own Nicole Harper Rawlins and Kerri Harper-Howie.**

Your vision and commitment to community continue to shape and strengthen Los Angeles, reflecting our shared dedication to fostering leadership, cultivating opportunity and uplifting the women we serve.

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DR. STACY CLAIRE BRIGHTMAN



Welcome from LACGW President

Dr. Regina Smith

President, 2024-2026

Greetings,

It is with profound honor and deep gratitude that we welcome you to this historic occasion, the 50th Anniversary of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women and the 40th Annual Women of the Year Commemorative Ruby Celebration Gala. For five decades, the Commission has stood as a steadfast voice for equity, justice, and opportunity for women and girls across Los Angeles County. For forty years,

the Women of the Year celebration has honored the extraordinary leadership, resilience, and service of women whose work transforms communities and generations. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for standing with us and for their continued sponsorship of the Women of the Year Commemorative Celebration. Your leadership and partnership ensure that this legacy of recognition and empowerment endures. To our distinguished partners, and every guest present today. Your continued commitment affirms that the advancement of women and girls remains not only necessary but urgent. This year, we gather under two powerful and intentional themes: *Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future & Moving Forward Together: Women Educating and Inspiring Generations*. These themes reflect both our moment and our mandate. On January 15, 2025, amid the devastation of the Southern California wildfires, the Commission made the thoughtful decision to postpone rather than cancel our annual celebration. With millions across our region experiencing loss and displacement, and several commissioners personally impacted, we recognized that our community first needed space to grieve, heal, and begin rebuilding. It would have been incongruous to celebrate during a time of such profound suffering. Over 10 million residents were affected by one of the most significant disasters in our state's history. Families were displaced. Communities were shaken, and lives were altered. In that moment, our responsibility was clear: to stand in solidarity, to extend compassion, and to uplift those most impacted, particularly the 5.3 million women and girls across our region who endured and witnessed this devastation. We committed ourselves to being present in peace, love, and unity, walking alongside our communities through recovery and renewal. As President, I issued a Call to Action. And tasked each Commissioner to conduct intentional

in-reach to our scholarship community, ensuring that every young woman connected to our work was safe, supported, and aware of available resources. Our commitment to advocacy does not pause in times of crisis; it deepens. Today, as we reconvene, we do so with renewed purpose.

We celebrate women who are shaping sustainability across environmental, economic, educational, and social justice movements. We celebrate women who dismantled barriers, challenged inequities, and forged pathways where none existed. We stand here because others stood before us. I am personally grateful to my ancestors, to my 92-year-old mother, and to the generations of women whose perseverance and sacrifice made this moment possible. I honor the trailblazers who shattered ceilings and redefined leadership from the first all-women Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to the first woman Mayor of the City of Los Angeles and the first woman Vice President of the United States. This past year has tested women in unprecedented ways. We have witnessed attempts to erase our gender, undermine reproductive

autonomy, marginalize immigrant communities, suppress Black history, censor our cultural identities, and challenge the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Progress and backlash have unfolded simultaneously within our institutions. It has been a turbulent year, and the Los Angeles County Commission for Women never stopped showing up for our sisters, encouraging and assuring them that we will outlast these challenging times. To elevate this work, I requested to commission a documentary film and a historical book commemorating our 50th Anniversary to share how, yet women persist. We persist in leadership. We persist in advocacy. We persist in solidarity. In that spirit, I established the following partnerships: the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls and Mount Saint Mary's University to convene Women's Commissions from across the state. The Domestic Violence Council and Jenesse Center Inc., in partnership with our Violence Against Women and Girls Committee, hosted our Annual Domestic Violence Breakfast Briefing. The Commission partnered with the Los Angeles Unified School District and provided professional development for educators using the Commissions LGBTQIA+ curriculum on inclusion. And these resources are publicly available through the commission's website at LACCW.gov. Reaffirming our commitment to education, inclusion, and systemic change.

I also acknowledge a particular kind of courage: the courage of women who did not wait for permission to lead; who brought their own chairs to tables where they were not invited; who sat alone yet carried the voices of many. We honor women who were overlooked, underestimated, silenced, excluded, denied equal pay, harassed, dismissed, disrespected, and yet chose to stand, not only for themselves, but for others. To those women: you are seen. You are valued. And you are not standing alone.

Today, we celebrate every Woman of the Year honoree and every Resilience Scholarship recipient. These extraordinary women represent each supervisorial district of Los Angeles County and embody the very essence of public service, courage, and transformative leadership. Their stories remind us that progress is not accidental; it is intentional.

It truly takes a village to sustain and advance this work and to ensure the success of this celebration. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Women of the Year Ad Hoc Committee for their diligence, vision, and tireless efforts in bringing this event to fruition. The Los Angeles County Commission for Women also gratefully acknowledges our dedicated Commission Services Staff, our valued partners, county departments, fellow commissioners, and community

resource liaisons. Your commitment throughout the year strengthens our mission and amplifies our impact across Los Angeles County. May today renew our resolve. May it strengthen our unity. May it remind us that the work continues and that together, we are more powerful than any challenge before us.

As Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell's Second District Commission Appointee and President of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women, it is my solemn honor to serve this county, to inform, advocate, and to help open doors that might otherwise remain closed. Be empowered. Be courageous. Be unapologetic.

With respect and gratitude,



Dr. Regina Smith

President, Los Angeles County Commission for Women



Welcome from Luncheon Committee Chair

Irma Archuleta

Vice President 2024-2026

Welcome to the 2026 Los Angeles County “Women of the Year Gala Celebration”! Thank you for attending our event and for being with us today, as we commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Women of the Year event and the 50th Anniversary of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women (LACCW). It’s a Gemstone Affair of Diamonds and Rubies!

In March 1985, in commemoration of Women’s History Month, the LACCW celebrated its first “Women of the Year” event. The purpose of the Women of the Year event was to recognize and celebrate the women of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to the commissioners at that time for their vision and wisdom to create an annual event dedicated to honoring women and recognizing their extraordinary accomplishments.

Today, celebrate with us as we pay tribute and praise to the amazing 2025 and 2026 women honorees nominated and selected for their remarkable contributions to improving the lives of women and advancing women's rights in Los Angeles County. Also, my sincere appreciation to the 2025 honorees for their graciousness in accepting and understanding the reasons for the postponement of their recognition. It was with deep sadness and due to last year’s devastating fires, which caused such dreadful hardship among thousands of LA County residents, including several of our commissioners, that the 2025 celebration was cancelled. We promised the honorees that in 2026, we would celebrate and recognize them for their excellence and exceptional achievements. On this day, we are doubly honored to commemorate the exceptional women recipients of 2025 and 2026!

This year’s anniversary celebration also pay homage to the numerous commissioners whose dedication over the past 50 years advanced the well-being of women and girls in Los Angeles County, as mandated in the ordinance that established the 15-woman board on March 18, 1975. Since its inception, the LACCW has explored the fundamental needs and significant challenges faced by women in Los Angeles County and has actively engaged with County service providers and local grassroots organizations to address the issues impacting women and girls. According to our 2023 LACCW Status of Women Report (prepared by Mount St. Mary’s University), five million women and girls live in Los Angeles County, of which more than 1.7 million are immigrants. Among women in Los Angeles County, 49% identify as Latina, 24% as White, 16% as Asian American, 8% as African American, 4% as Other, 1% as American Indian/Alaska Native, and 0.5% as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, while 10% identify as LGBTQ+. Thus, the Los Angeles County Commission for Women is committed to continuing to play a pivotal role in advocating for the well-being of Los Angeles County women through collaboration, resource sharing, and participation in the legislative process.

I want to thank the sponsors for their invaluable contributions, and all of you who donated by purchasing event tickets, participating in the silent auction, or contributing directly to our scholarship program. Your support and contributions make our work possible. This annual event is the sole source of funding for the Resilience Scholarship program, an important component that has served hundreds of women and awarded close to half a million dollars in scholarship funds. In 2018, as chair of the education committee,

and with the support of fellow commissioners, I initiated the transformation and streamlining of the scholarship program. We began by removing the “scholarship for girls at risk” title and renaming it the Resilience Scholarship. Since then, the education committee has worked to streamline and standardize the application process and has consistently awarded scholarships of \$1,000-\$1,500, depending on our fundraising revenue, to 15 recipients—3 per supervisorial district. Now, under the direction of education chair Jennifer Anderson, the scholarship continues to flourish. Also, within the education committee's scope, in 2022, I created the HERstory videography legacy project to highlight and document our exceptional Resilience Scholarship recipients. We have recorded about a dozen recipients and are collecting a gallery of stories. We hope that tomorrow, some of these resilient women will become future honorees, commissioners, or even supervisors.

Once again, I want to congratulate all the recipients on their outstanding achievements and communicate my appreciation to all those in attendance for your contributions and support. I also wish to convey my sincere appreciation to our commission President, Dr. Regina Smith, for her exceptional leadership, generosity, and invaluable support. My gratitude also goes to the Ad Hoc Women of the Year Commissioners (Anderson, Brightman, Ferrell-Hinds, Johnson, Kennedy & So) for their work and diligence, and to County Commission Staff, (Violet Zepeda, Roy Sinclair & Cesar Hernandez) whose arduous efforts make this and all our events possible!

In closing, I want to thank the honorable Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair of the Board of Supervisors, for introducing the resolution that reaffirms the County's commitment to honor and support the LACCW. But most of all, I want to express my deep gratitude to my dear friend for the opportunity to represent her on the Los Angeles County Commission for Women. It has been both an honor and a privilege to serve for the past 10 years as your District 1 representative. Thank you, Mil Gracias, Supervisor Solis!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Irma Archuleta', written in a cursive style.

Irma Archuleta
President, Los Angeles County Commission for Women
Los Angeles County Commission for Women



Elizabeth Alcantar



Dr. Stacy Claire Brightman



Alexa Castanon



Denise Diaz



Yi Ding



Dr. Regina Smith
President



Irma Archuleta
Vice President



Jennifer Baird Anderson
Treasurer



Jannelle So-Perkins



Lena Louise Kennedy



Lorna Mae Johnson



Karriann Farrell Hinds,
Esq.



Dr. Yolanda Gorman



Since 1975, the Los Angeles County Commission for Women, a 15 member advisory Commission appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, has worked to improve the lives of women and their families in Los Angeles County.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For details on the following upcoming events, please visit the Commission's website at laccw.lacounty.gov:

- Narrowing Women's Health-Wealth Gap in Los Angeles County Report.
- The 2026 Commission for Women Scholarship Presentation and Reception.
- The 9th Annual Domestic Violence Briefing
- The Women of the Year Retreat focusing on the goals for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

If you would like information on the Commission's past or future activities, or would like to be added to their e-mail distribution list, please contact the Commission Office at (213) 974-1455, e-mail laccw@bos.lacounty.gov or visit laccw.lacounty.gov.

The Los Angeles County Commission for Women

Irma Archuleta, *Vice President*, 2016 First District appointee. an educator, public servant, and community advocate with leadership experience in California higher education, including service as a Trustee for Long Beach City College. Her work advances educational equity and student success, with advocacy for immigrant and first-generation students through MALDEF and the Leticia A Network.

Elizabeth Alcantar, 2026 First District Appointee. She currently serves as a Councilmember for the City of Cudahy and is an advocate and organizer by heart and trade for her community in Southeast Los Angeles. She is now at Local Progress, an organization supporting a movement of progressive local elected officials advancing a racial, economic, and gender justice agenda.

Jennifer Baird Anderson, *Treasurer*, 2021 Fifth District appointee. an educator, mathematician, and data professional dedicated to advancing equity and opportunity for women. She serves as Treasurer of the LA County Commission for Women and brings a strong background in education, analytics, and public service to support data-informed policy, mentorship, and systemic change across LA County.

Alexa Castañon, 2024 Fourth District Appointee. A trans Latina immigrant advocate with five years of community activism focused on civil rights and social justice. She completed ESL and currently pursuing computer skills training. Her work is centered on advancing equity and support to the trans Latina community, including the marginalized HIV impacted people.

Dr. Yolanda J. Gorman, 2021 Second District appointee. A transformational leader whose career spans university presidencies and senior UCLA leadership, including service as Chief of Staff to the Chancellor. She brings deep expertise in strategy, governance, and organizational development, strengthening institutions and advancing equity-focused initiatives across higher education and the public sector.

Dr. Bobbie Emetu, 2022 Third District appointee. A public health professor, scholar, and therapist whose work focuses on sexual wellbeing, mental health, and affirming care for LGBTQ+ individuals. Her research and community-based practice integrate health behavior, minority health, and participatory approaches, alongside teaching, training, and advocacy focused on affirming, inclusive sexual health care.

Karriann Farrell Hinds, Esq., *Immediate Past President*, 2024 Second District appointee. The Chief Strategy Officer for Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services and an advocate for strengthening political representation and leadership among women and communities of color. In addition to serving on LACCW, Karriann is a gubernatorial appointee to the California Board of Accountancy.

Julie Friedman, 2018 Third District appointee. Director of the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Education and Research Center

where she collaborates extensively with cross-sector partners in advancing women's health equity and economic security. Julie is an LACCW appointee of Supervisor Lindsey Horvath and chairs the Health Committee.

Dr. Regina Smith, *President*, 2024-2026 Second District appointee. Serves as Senior Advisor to Chancellor on Equity and Justice and Vice President of Student Services. Her goal is to create a gateway to educate, advocate, increase resources, and build partnerships to support women in Los Angeles County.

Lorna Mae Johnson, 2024 First District appointee. Former Olympic qualifying athlete, nurse-midwife, author, entrepreneur, and philanthropist serving underserved communities in Los Angeles and worldwide. She founded LMJ Global Enterprises and the LMJ Global Foundation, and has served as a presidential appointee, advancing equity and advocacy for women and children.

Lena Louise Kennedy, 2021 Fifth District appointee. a visionary leader and CEO of Community Women of Vital Voices. A veteran strategist policy consultant, coalition builder, and philanthropic advisor, she empowers women and communities through leadership development, public policy education, and relationship-driven advocacy, leading with trust, respect, and purpose.

Yi Ding, 2023 Third District appointee. a Fortune 100 financial advisor dedicated to holistic economic empowerment. She saves students millions on textbooks while guiding families to build, protect, and grow generational wealth—from retirement planning to business growth—forging paths to stability at both the systemic and personal level.

Denise Diaz, 2023 Fourth District appointee. A seasoned public affairs and government relations strategist, Senior Director of Public Affairs for The Chicago School, and founder of New Image Consulting. A former South Gate City Councilmember, she specializes in education policy, equity, and building public-private partnerships that expand opportunity and uplift communities.

Jannelle So-Perkins, 2023 Fourth District appointee. A nationally recognized Filipino American media pioneer, television host, and producer. She created and hosted America's first and only daily talk show for Filipinos and now leads a global lifestyle platform. In July 2017, she launched her weekly magazine/lifestyle show "SO Jannelle."

Dr. Stacy Claire Brightman, 2024 Fifth District appointee. a native Angeleno and the first CEO of The Ebell of LA/Wilshire Ebell Theatre in its 132-year history. She leads the organization's mission to inspire women and build community through arts, culture, education, and service, advancing The Ebell as a women-led hub for civic and cultural life, serving more than 100,000 Angelenos annually.

Program for the 40th Anniversary “Women of the Year”
Commemorative Ruby Gala Celebration

“Women Educating and Inspiring Generations”

Monday, March 9, 2026 • 11:30 a.m.

**President’s and Luncheon
Committee Chair’s Welcome and
County Land Acknowledgment**

Dr. Regina Smith
Commission President

Irma Archuleta
Commission Vice President &
Luncheon Committee Chair

Invocation

Karriann Farrell Hinds, Esq.
Immediate Past President

**Presentation of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance
& National Anthem**

Dr. Regina Smith
Commission President

**50th Anniversary Commemorative Plaque
Presentation and Special Tribute Video**

The Honorable Hilda L. Solis
First Supervisorial District

**Resilience Scholarship Advocacy
and “HERstory” Video**

LACCW Commissioners
Jennifer Baird Anderson, Commission Treasurer

LUNCH

President’s Award Presentation

Dr. Regina Smith, Commission President

**District Awards Presentation
by Supervisors**

The Honorable Hilda L. Solis
The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
The Honorable Lindsey P. Horvath
The Honorable Janice Hahn
The Honorable Kathryn Barger

Exceptional Leader Awards Presentation

Dr. Regina Smith
Commission for Women

Community SHEROE Awards Presentation

Dr. Regina Smith
Commission President

Closing Remarks

LACCW Commissioners



First District Honoree

Dr. Marie S. Torres

Vice Chair

JWCH Institute/Wesley Health Center Board of Directors

For 40 Years, Dr. Marie S. Torres has been a tireless champion for the medically underserved and the disenfranchised populations in California. Until 2020, she served as Senior Vice President of Government Relations and community research initiatives for Altamed Health Services Corporation. In this role she oversaw advocacy, public policy, and legislative initiatives.

In April 2022, Dr. Torres joined the JWCH Institute/Wesley Health Centers Board of Directors and serves as Vice Chair. As a retired health care professional, she embraced this volunteer opportunity to help the homeless and other vulnerable members of our community.

Her dedication to safe and healthy communities extended to her own neighborhood and served as a neighborhood watch captain for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Industry Station.

Dr. Torres is a proud congregant of St. John Vianney Church in Hacienda Heights since 1984, actively volunteers in their annual early California Days Festival and committed to the continuing growth of our parish. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from University of Southern California School of Social Work.



Second District Honoree

Lila M. Omura

Homeless Housing Navigator

Redondo Beach

Lila Omura is the City of Redondo Beach Homeless Housing Navigator Supervisor with over a decade of successful experience in connecting people to services and permanent housing. Her compassion and persistence allowed her to build a strong reputation among Redondo's homeless population. She has reunited her clients with family, placed them in various housing, and connected them with mental health and substance abuse treatment. Her dedication is a major contributor to the City's

reduction in its homeless population and recognition for reaching Functional Zero.

She has been featured in local papers and has been invited to speak at several presentations and panels on homelessness and housing for other cities and councils of governments.

Lila grew up with a father who had drug addiction and served time in prison. This heart-breaking event shaped Lila's outlook on life and motivates her to treat each client with respect. Lila also lost her husband tragically. Her son, mother, and her faith are the foundation of her strength. It is no wonder that the Daily Breeze referred to her as Redondo's "angel."



First District Honoree

Corinne J. Sánchez, Esq.

President/CEO

El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

Since 1978, Corrine Sánchez has served El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc., a nonprofit organization in the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys founded by individuals in recovery. As President and CEO, she recognized the need to expand services and led growth in comprehensive primary healthcare, employment supports, childcare, and perinatal social services.

Corrine is a founder and past President of the Latina Lawyers Bar Association, which advocates for and advances Latinas in the legal profession. She also volunteered with the Los Angeles District Attorney's Domestic Violence program, assisting survivors with filing temporary restraining orders.

Her public service includes appointments as a Commissioner to the Workforce Development Board by Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and to the Hospitals and Healthcare Delivery Commission by former Supervisor Sheila Kuehl. Corrine is a founder and current board member of the California Primary Care Association, and a past President and Treasurer of the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of The Music Center, appointed by Supervisor Hilda L. Solis.



Second District Honoree

Nicole Harper Rawlins & Keri Harper-Howie
Entrepreneurs

Nicole Harper Rawlins and Kerri Harper-Howie are sister entrepreneurs who own and operate McDonald's franchises across Los Angeles County, proudly owning every McDonald's in Compton, continuing the legacy of their mother, Patricia Williams, who became a franchisee in the early 1980s.

Nicole received her BA in Psychology, and MA in Educational Psychology, from UC Berkeley, and transitioned into the family business after a decade of social service work, purchasing her first McDonald's in 2010, and successfully expanding since.

Kerri earned degrees in Political Science and Rhetoric from UC Berkeley and NYU School of Law, joining the family business after leaving a 13-year legal career, to become an Owner/Operator in 2017.

Since 2019, Nicole and Kerri have significantly expanded their organization, employing over 1,500 people, earning national leadership positions within McDonald's, and receiving prestigious industry honors. Deeply committed to community service, they lead extensive philanthropic efforts through their charitable organization, the Patricia G. Williams Family Foundation, whose mission is to, "improve the lives of families and communities through scholarships, education and celebration of excellence."



Third District Honoree

Dr. Armida O. Ornelas

President

Los Angeles Mission College

Dr. Ornelas is currently the President at Los Angeles Mission College. For close to 30 years, she has dedicated her career to ensuring access to quality instructional programs for community college students. She is a passionate and committed educational leader who has continuously advocated for educational equity and ensuring access to higher education in marginalized communities. Dr. Ornelas believes that higher education is a tool that can empower students, transform lives, and

continue to uplift low-income communities.

Dr. Ornelas is the proud daughter of immigrant parents from Jalisco, Mexico. She was raised in East Los Angeles and attended Garfield High School. She went on to pursue her undergraduate studies at UCLA and graduated with a double major in Chicana/o Studies and Sociology. Later, she earned her Master's degree in Public Policy Studies from the University of Chicago and her doctorate from the UCLA School of Education. Dr. Ornelas is the proud mother of two children, Ariana Tlalli and Nicolas Andres. She is especially proud of her granddaughters Luna and Nayeli.



Third District Honoree

Commander Jennifer Seetoo

Commander

Los Angeles County Sheriff Department

Commander Jennifer Seetoo has dedicated over 25 years to serving Los Angeles County as a law enforcement officer, gaining extensive experience in investigations, leadership, education, and international collaboration. Her homeland security work included key assignments with the United States Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Los Angeles Joint Regional Intelligence Center.

Commander Seetoo holds a master's degree in Homeland Defense and Security from the Naval Postgraduate School and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, Class 279.

She previously served at the Malibu Lost Hills Sheriff's Station as both lieutenant and captain, leading critical emergency response operations as incident commander for the 2018 Woolsey Fire and the 2025 Palisades Fire. Currently, Commander Seetoo oversees the North Patrol Division of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which includes the Lancaster, Malibu Lost Hills, Palmdale, Santa Clarita, and West Hollywood stations.

Commander Seetoo and her husband, Joe Seetoo, reside in Westlake Village, where they are raising their two young daughters.



Fourth District Honoree

Catalina M. Hinojosa

Founder and CEO

San Pedro Recovery Alliance

Catalina M. Hinojosa is the Founder and CEO of the San Pedro Recovery Alliance (SPRA), an organization dedicated to uplifting people with substance use disorder and alcoholism by connecting them to housing and supportive services. After the devastating loss of her mother led to involvement in the justice system, she found strength in sobriety and discovered her passion for helping others while supporting her peers. With the guidance of her probation officer, and programs like Breaking

Barriers, Catalina began a new chapter at Homeboy Industries, where she solidified her resolve to help others.

Catalina is a beacon of hope and support for formerly incarcerated individuals and the homeless community. Her dedication to supporting those in need mirrors the same compassion and encouragement she once received, creating a cycle of positivity and empowerment. Her journey reflects courage and the power of second chances, transforming both her life and the lives of those she serves.



Fifth District Honoree

Dr. Lucy Jones

Founder

Dr. Lucy Centers for Science and Society

Dr. Lucy Jones is a seismologist and founder of the nonprofit Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society that supports the application of science in the creation of more resilient communities and is a research associate in the Seismological Laboratory at Caltech. With a BA in Chinese Language and Literature from Brown University, and a Ph.D. in Geophysics from MIT, she was a geophysicist with the US Geological Survey at Caltech for 33 years, developing methodologies for short term earthquake

advisories and integrated disaster scenarios, including the Great ShakeOut scenario and drill.

Dr. Jones is the author of **The Big Ones**: How natural disasters have shaped us (and what we can do about them), the creator of the Great ShakeOut drill and cohost of the podcast, *Getting Through It*. She has received numerous awards including the prestigious Service to America Medal in 2015, AGU's Gilbert White Lecture in 2018 and Gutenberg Lecture in 2023. Dr. Jones is a musician, performing on the viola da gamba with Los Angeles Baroque and SoCal Viols, and composed music on climate change, *In Nomine Terra Calens*.



President's Award

Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove

U.S. Representative

37th Congressional District of California

A fierce advocate for justice and families, Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove proudly represents California's 37th Congressional District in Los Angeles County.

Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on South and Central Asia, and on the House Committee on the Judiciary. She also serves as Whip of the Congressional

Black Caucus and Policy Co-Chair of the Democratic Women's Caucus.

Prior to her time in Congress, Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove spent her career championing opportunity and equity. Upon graduating from the University of Southern California, she worked to advance job creation and public arts programs with Rebuild LA and the Los Angeles Festival.

Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove remains a strong voice for our most vulnerable community members as she continues her commitment to public service in the House of Representatives.





Exceptional Leader Award

Melody Lomboy-Lowe

Founder

Luna Peak Foundation

Celebrating 41 years in remission from acute lymphoblastic leukemia, Melody Lomboy's life is a powerful story of resilience, advocacy, and community impact. Diagnosed at age six and given a 50% chance of survival, she endured three years of intensive treatment at City of Hope. Her journey as one of the few survivors in her era became the foundation for her lifelong dedication to supporting cancer patients and survivors.

Melody is the author of 11 groundbreaking books focused on cancer and grief, providing inspiration and resources for underserved communities. Through her nonprofit, Luna Peak Foundation, she returns to cancer wards to personally deliver care packages to young patients. Her commitment to accessibility ensures these resources are provided free of charge, empowering families regardless of their circumstances.

Melody's work reminds us all of the strength found in community and the impact of one person's mission to make a difference. Her legacy shines as an enduring beacon of resilience, compassion, and empowerment. A UC Irvine graduate and former collegiate swimmer, Melody's determination extends beyond her personal journey.



Exceptional Leader Award

Dr. Marisela K. Montoya

Executive Director

South Los Angeles Health Projects

Dr. Marisela Montoya is a visionary leader dedicated to health equity, diversity, and community empowerment. Since 2021, Dr. Montoya has served as Executive Director of South Los Angeles Health Projects (SLAHP), becoming its first Latina Executive Director- an important milestone that demonstrates the organizations commitment to inclusion and diversity.

Under her leadership, SLAHP has modernized systems, strengthened partnerships, and maintained uninterrupted hybrid Women, Infant Children (WIC) services, serving over 66,000 individuals monthly. Earning national recognition, including the National WIC Association's Leadership and Health Equity Champion Agency Award and USDA's WIC Breastfeeding Gold Award of Excellence.

An adjunct instructor at Los Angeles City College since 2006, Dr. Montoya continues to mentor future leaders. She is also the recipient of the California Department of Public Health inaugural 2025 WIC Director of the Year Award. Dr. Montoya finds joy in family life with her husband Pedro, three sons, three grandchildren, and two Labradors, embodying resilience and commitment to equitable communities.



Exceptional Leader Award

Zoe A. Nicholson

Activist, Author, Artist

Zoe A. Nicholson is a lifelong equality activist, author, artist, and speaker whose commitment to feminism and civil rights began at age eight. She has devoted her life to labor, peace, LGBTQ+ rights, and gender equality. In 1982, she joined six women in a 37 day public fast in Springfield, Illinois, advocating for the Equal Rights Amendment.

Inspired by Alice Paul's global call for Women's Commissions and by Long Beach Councilwoman Renee Simons, Nicholson spent five years pushing for the creation of the Long Beach Commission for Women & Girls, which was finally signed into law August 9, 2023.

Zoe has authored five books, including *The Hungry Heart-A Women's Fast for Justice*, and is developing her sixth, *Tea with Alice & Me, Zoe's Scrapbook of Miss Paul*, along with an expanded website, ZoeNicholson.com. She appears in the documentary *Still Working 9 to 5* and the PBS series *We'll Meet Again*. She received the National Organization for Women's (NOW's) 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award and was honored as 2023 Woman of the Year by Assemblyman Josh Lowenthal.



Exceptional Leader Award

Sonya Passi

*Founder
Free Form*

Sonya Passi is the founder of FreeFrom, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to helping survivors of gender-based violence achieve economic justice and long-term financial stability. Through her work, she's helped disperse over \$7.4MM in emergency cash grants to survivors across the United States and Puerto Rico, supported 1,800+ survivors in saving nearly \$1MM via FreeFrom's national Savings Match Program, and successfully advocated for legislation and corporate policy that has created new

financial protections for more than 20.4 million survivors in the United States.

Sonya has been an anti-violence activist since she was sixteen years old. During high school, she started an Amnesty International Community Group, and, while working on their global violence against women campaign, discovered her life's work.

While earning her law degree at UC Berkeley, she launched the Family Violence Appellate Project, the first and only organization in California to provide pro bono appellate legal services to survivors of intimate partner violence. Sonya also created Gifted by FreeFrom, a survivor-centered social enterprise, have solidified her reputation as a next-generation thought leader.



Exceptional Leader Award

Susie B. Baldwin (she/her) MD, MPH, FACPM

Medical Director

*Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Office of Women's Health*

Susie B. Baldwin (she/her), MD, MPH, FACPM is a preventive medicine specialist whose career brought her from New York City to Tucson, AZ and to Los Angeles in 2004. Dr. Baldwin is the Medical Director of the Office of Women's Health (OWH) at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). Her OWH team has improved women's health equity with a focus on sexual and reproductive health,

gender-based violence, and understanding and addressing disparities in women's and gender diverse populations' health.

Dr. Baldwin has a history of serving human trafficking survivors and has advanced public health and survivor-led, trauma informed, anti-carceral approaches to ending interpersonal violence and helping survivors heal. She served as founding president of HEAL Trafficking from 2013 to 2020 and led HEAL's protocols initiative, resulting in hospitals and health care systems improving their responses to patients experiencing violence. Dr. Baldwin's career has also focused on sexual and reproductive health, including abortion care, as a clinician, advocate, and educator. She is a published author in her area of expertise who has won numerous awards for her advocacy in sexual and reproductive health, health equity, and anti-trafficking.



SHERO Award

Alyce D. LaViolette

Advocate

Alyce D. LaViolette has worked with victims of domestic violence since 1978 at WomenShelter of Long Beach. In 1979, she founded one of the first programs in the country to work with perpetrators of domestic violence (Alternatives to Violence). She and two Long Beach probation officers developed the first 8-hour counseling and therapy training programs for Los Angeles County Probation Department and throughout the state of California. In addition, she also developed a 40-hour domestic violence training sessions for LA and Orange Counties Department of Children and

Family Services (DCFS).

Alyce speaks nationally, and internationally on battered women and their batterers, anger management, gender and LGBTQ+ issues, and served on the U.S. Department of State's Speakers' Bureau. She co-wrote one of Sage Publication's best-selling books, "It Could Happen to Anyone: Why Battered Women Stay". And has also written articles and co-authored the parenting curriculum for the Administrative Office of the Courts in California. Alyce has appeared on local, national and international television and radio and serves as an expert witness in criminal, family and civil court.



SHERO Award

Paulina P. Palomino

*Dean of Student Services
East Los Angeles College*

Paulina P. Palomino is the Dean of Student Services at East Los Angeles College (ELAC) and has dedicated more than 30 years to expanding access to higher education, particularly for first-generation, Latino, and low-income students. A proud graduate of ELAC, Garfield High School, and Griffith Junior High, her work is deeply rooted in her own experiences growing up in East Los Angeles.

Paulina began her career as a college counselor and later served as Director of ELAC's Transfer Center, one of the largest in the state. Under her leadership, ELAC significantly increased transfer rates, ranking among the top community colleges in California for transfers to both the University of California and Cal State University systems. She developed innovative transfer initiatives and partnerships with institutions such as UCLA and Loyola Marymount University, contributing to a 21 percent increase in transfers and a 72 percent UC acceptance rate.

She has led and collaborated with multiple student support programs, including CalWORKs, EOPS, CARE, DSPS, and campus childcare services, strengthening coordinated, holistic support for students. Paulina serves on statewide boards and is widely recognized for her leadership in student success and transfer advocacy.



SHERO Award

Jennifer D. Roberson

*Program Manager
BreastfeedLA*

Jennifer D. Roberson is a Certificated Lactation Education Specialist (CLES) and Program Manager for BreastfeedLA, Los Angeles County's breast/chestfeeding coalition. She led BreastfeedLA's first direct-service initiative serving Black families in Los Angeles County, introducing the Liberation Lactation Lounge—a free clinic created in partnership with Humbled By Motherhood that provides culturally affirming, no-cost lactation support while centering Black lactation professionals.

Jennifer also created a weekly in-person and virtual drop-in space where Black lactating people gather for peer support, connection, and honest conversation about feeding and parenting. Her most recent work includes partnering with First 5 OC to establish Orange County's first Black Infant Health site in the program's 37-year history.

An aspiring International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC), doula, and childbirth educator, Jennifer is deeply committed to offering the care, dignity, and advocacy she long wished for as a Black woman navigating the healthcare system.



SHERO Award

Nellie L. Scott

*Executive Director
Corita Art Center*

Nellie Scott is an art historian and cultural leader whose work advances art, social practice, and the role of institutions in public life and civic imagination and is currently the Executive Director of Corita Art Center. Over the past decade, she has developed exhibitions, national arts education initiatives, and arts and wellness resources during crises, working with artists, estates, foundations, and cultural institutions to build sustainable cultural ecosystems.

Her work ranges from placing sculptures on the White House lawn during the Obama-era SXSL Changemakers Summit, to collaborating with the Vatican on a Venice Biennale pavilion with system-impacted women, to leading global brand campaigns that bring art into public space. Her projects have been featured in Vogue, the Los Angeles Times, The New Yorker, The New York Times, and the Financial Times.

Nellie led the successful effort to secure historic cultural monument status for Corita Kent's former studio, addressing the fact that fewer than 3% of designated historic sites in Los Angeles represent women's heritage. She serves on the USC Roski School of Art and Design Board of Councilors, the Coquille Culture and Education Committee, the Board of Directors of The Ebell of Los Angeles.



SHERO Award

Geri Silva

*Co-Director
Fair Chance Project*

Geri Silva was born and raised in Los Angeles where she spent the past 40 years in all forms of struggle for human, political and economic rights. Her activity covers the span from immigration rights to welfare rights to the right to decent housing for all in need. For the past 30+ years she has fought against the rampant and ongoing abuses in the courts and at the hands of the police. For the past 20 years, she has organized against the implementation of the Three Strikes Law and Life Without the

Possibility of Parole

Geri was a founding member of Mothers Reclaiming Our Children (Mothers ROC) in 1992, Families to Amend California's Three Strikes (FACTS) in 1996, Fair Chance Project (FCP) in 2009, California Families Against Solitary Confinement (CFASC) in 2011, and Families United to End LWOP (FUEL) in 2017. She is presently the co-director of FCP and a lead organizer with FUEL

Los Angeles County Commission for Women would like to acknowledge all

“Women of the Year” Awardees Since 1985

Abarbanel, M.S.A., L.C.S.W., Gail	2009	Block, Sherman (Posthumously)	1989	Cook, Beverly	1993
Abcarian, Robin	1995	Bobb, Honorable Aviva K.	2003	Cook, Lodwick M.	1986
Abram, Deputy Bernice	1998	Boeckmann, Jane	1989	Cooper, Honorable Candace D.	1996
Abadie, Kelly L.	2015	Bojorquez-Gjurich, Gilda	1989	Cooperberg, M.S., C.P.R.P., Judy A.	2014
Acevedo-Franco, Gisselle	2005	Bojorquez, Guadalupe Rosas	2009	Corday, Barbara	1998
Aceves, Lilia	2000	Booth, Pamela	2014	Coste Lewis, Robin	2018
Agostino, Lea Purwin	1988	Bottini, Ivy	2016	Coulter Cheadle, Bridgid	2022
Aguilar, Yollie Flores	1999	Bowman, Alana	1995	Courtney, Dorothy	2001
Alemayehu, Esq., Muluemebet	2023	Brand, Sybil	1991	Cox, Geneva	1993
Aliewine, Edna	2007	Braude, MD, Marjorie	1993	Creary, Ph.D., Ruth V.	2015
Allred, Gloria	1985	Brenes, Maria	2018	Crowe, Bobbye R.	1991
Amador, Alicia	1992	Brody, Ph.D., Bea	1989	Crystal Stairs, Inc.	2001
Andrade, Vibiana	2005	Brown, Honorable Irma J.	1999	Curtis, Dianne	2011
Andrews, Honorable Deborah B.	2002	Butler, Laphonsa	2012	Cushman, Virginia Goss	2012
Arias, Della	1989	Burton, Rorri	2021	Dador, Denise	2008
Arizmendi, Rachelle	2016	Busch, Estelle	2000	Dagit, Rosie	2014
Ashby, Helena	1993	Butterfield, Lea	2002	D'Amato, Candida D. (Posthumously)	1996
Astin, Ph.D., Helen S.	1992	Campos, Araceli	2019	Darrington, Sandra	1995
Au, Nancy Haruye	1994	Campos-Bergeron, Olivia	1991	Davenport, Esq., Fesia	2015
Avila, Guadalupe	1995	Carter, Mone't	2019	Davenport, Jerre	2005
Avila, Maria (Posthumously)	1996	Castro, Commander Lynda R.	2008	Davila, Irene	1993
Barad, Jill Elikann	1998	Chamberlain, Marilyn	1998	Davis, Dr. Anissa	2021
Banks, Sandy	2011	Chacon, Leticia D., LCSW	2020	Davis M.A., Gloria J.	2006
Barbee, Cynthia A.	2000	Chand, Nancy	2008	Davis, Marilyn McCoo	2006
Barger, Kathryn	2016	Chandler, Beverly	1989	DeDominic, Patty	2007
Barrett, Marilyn	1993	Chapman, Ingrid	2013	Dela Cruz, Maribeth	2024
Bass, The Honorable Karen	2023	Chavez, Elizabeth	1988	Delahoussaye, Dr. Yasmin	2024
Batchlor, Dr. Elaine	2024	Chavez, Gloria	2013	DeLa Torre-Wycoff, Gloria	1997
Becerra, Captain Irma	2006	Chick, Honorable Laura	2008	DeVaughn, Juanita	2015
Becker, Nettie	1993	Clavreul, R.N., Ph.D., Geneviève	2018	Diaz, Diana	2023
Bellas, Mari	1995	Cobb, Ph.D. Jewel Plummer	1996	Diaz, Laura	2007
Beltran-del Olmo, Magdalena	2003	Cohn, Nona George	1998	Dillon, Kelli	2022
Berg, Lori	2016	Colacchio, Alison	2019	Dixon, Richard B.	1986
Berry, Ph.D., Elizabeth	1987	Colen, Irma	2001	Domestic Violence Council	1993
Biondi, Carol Oughton	2004	Collins, Lisa	2018	Dominic, C.S.J., Sister Mary	1987
Black, Berisha	2004	Colton, Helen	1989	Doud, Ph.D., Jacqueline Powers	2003
Blake, Esq., Meredith	1999	Conger, Jean	1989	Dreizler, Patricia Allen	2007
Blashek, Carolyn	2017	Connell, Karen	1987		
		Connolly, Sister Una	2003		
		Contreras-Sweet, Maria	1999		

“Women of the Year” Awardees Since 1985

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Durazo, Maria Elena	2005	Geller, Rabbi Laura	1995	Hyde-Jackson, Dr. Deborah	1993
Earl, Karen	2010	Getty, Aileen	2011	Isken, Joann	2012
Eastlund, Elizabeth	2021	Giggans, Patricia Occhiuzzo	2002	Ivie, J.D., Sylvia Drew	2000
Eastman, Lynn G.	1988	Girl Scouts of		Iwataki, Miya	1991
Education Spectrum	2008	Greater Los Angeles	2018	Jackson, Victoria	1997
Edwards, Peggy	2019	Glasgow, Ph.D., Lori	2001	Jardin, Lauren	1985
Eidem, Ellen	2020	Goldsworthy, Robin	2016	Johnson, Genita	2016
Ekchian, Dr. Vivian	2023	González, Yolanda	2018	Jonas, Dorothy	1988
Eliopulos, Dixie	2008	Griego, Linda	2014	Jones, Patricia	2018
Enciso, Alycia	1994	Guereca, Emiliana	2023	Judelson, M.D., Debra R.	1988
Ensign, L.C.S.W., Carol	2000	Hajduk, Dopierala Gloria	1988	Jung, Mary	1989
Erlandson, Mary Agnes	2004	Halevy, Libbe S.	1991	Kahn, Lisa	2010
Escutia,		Hall, Rita	2005	Kamenir-Reznik, Janice	1989
Honorable Martha M.	2006	Halverson, Jill	1985	Kaplan, Jo	2004
Esquivel, Celine	2021	Harper, Bridget C.	2015	Kappos, L.C.S.W, Barbara	2015
Estolano, Cecilia V.	2010	Harper, Mildred	1985	Kash, Kaygey	1988
Evers-Manly, Sandra	2003	Hart Rodas, Dr. Paula	2024	Kellum, Va Lecia Adams	2014
Farber, P.E., Gail	2015	Harvey, Pat	1994	Kennedy, Carol Jean	1986
Faris, Debi	2016	Hayes-Raitt, Kelly	2004	Kern, Janice	1989
Ferrer, Ph.D.. MPH, MEd,		Heger, Dr. Astrid	1994	Khan, Mariko	2014
Barbara	2022	Heller, Billie	1987	Kimbrough, Dr. Jackie	2005
Feucht-Haviar, Joyce	2013	Hernandez, Antonia	2004	Kindel, Maureen	2003
Figueroa-Villa, Sandra	2012	Hernandez, Helen	2016	Klasky-Gamer, Stephanie	2022
Firestone, Dr. Barbara	2000	Hernandez, Eunisses	2020	Klein, Barbara	1985
Fish, Barbara	2010	Herzog, Willa N.	1986	Knight, R.N., Lilian	2015
Fisher, Betty	1998	Hildreth, Cheryl P.	2016	Komolamit, Patima	2024
Fleming, Cheri	2012	Hill, Marianne Haver	2012	Kramer, Sherry	2016
Flores, Luz	2023	Hines-Gaither, Dr. Krishnauna	2024	Krockover, M.D., Mitizi R.	1997
Flores-Holguin, Xiomara	2013	Hirshberg, Judith	2002	Kruger, Ginny	2002
Ford, Betty	1985	Hoberman, Ellen	2007	Kuehl, Esq., Sheila	1989
Fracasse, Ida	1997	Hogan-Rowles, Forescee	2011	Kusumoto, Ann A.	1992
Frankel, Dr. Lois	2010	Holland, Ruby	1985	LaFollette, Marian	1985
Frye R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N.,		Holloman, Lucille	1985	LaMonica, Denise F.	1986
Jane	2011	Holmes, Linda	1989	Lamorie, Kim	2013
Fuentes, Cristina	1991	Horvath, Lindsey P.	2020	Lancaster, Ida	1988
Fujita, Fumiko Carole	1986	Hoskins, Eleanor	1987	Land, Abbe	2005
Gadbury, Dee	2016	House,		Lanham, Bobbie C.	1986
Galloway-Gilliam, Lark	1998	Honorable Mary Thornton	2004	Lawson, Lisa	2007
García, Norma Edith	2017	Houston, Zna Portlock	2013	Lee, Mary	2016
García-Brower, Lilia	2019	Howroyd, Janice Bryant	2006	Lee, Peg Ann	2006
Gardner, Mary	2003	Hsu, Christina	2001	Leibman, Esq., Abby	1989
Garland, Lillian	1996	Huang Werges, Lindy	2019	Lesser, Charlotte	1999
Garza, Ramona Cortes	2007	Huerta, Dolores	2005	Levitt, Ethel	1992
Geer, Ellen	2010	Hwang, Alice Y.	1996	Lewis, Kandee Rochelle	2017

“Women of the Year” Awardees Since 1985

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Levy, Carol	1987	Melara, Juana	2018	Perez, Carmen O.	1992
Leyva, Maria	2008	Mendizabal, Maritza	1996	Pfeil, Shirley	1991
Lincoln, Valaria M.	2023	Mercer, Georgia L.	1988	Phillips, Stacy D.	2018
Ling, Joan	2015	Messina, Ph.D, Nena P.	2009	Pincus, M.S.W., L.C.S.W., Gail J.	2009
Littleton, Christine	1996	Midkiff, Jessica	2015	Pinel, Pilar	2012
Lopez, Josefina	2003	Mijaers De Lang, Rlene	2024	Pitchford, Gayel A.	1987
Lopez, Kamala	2015	Miller, Commander Willie J.	2008	Pleasant, Betty	1987
Love, Lisa Lee	2004	Miller, D. Diane	1997	Pollack, Gloria	2013
Lozano, Monica C.	1996	Mitchell, Dr. Anitha	2001	Pol-Lim, Sara	2013
Lucero, Dolly	1987	Mitchell, Holly J.	2009	Porto, Beatriz	2022
Ludwig, Dorene	1996	Mitsumori, Nora	2003	Powell, Dr. Stephany	2017
Lujan, Cristina	2022	Mohr, Patricia	1985	Pregler, M.D., Janet P.	2017
Lynn Piazza, Andrea	2023	Molina, Gloria	1985	Price, D.D., Betty R.	2003
Lytle-Hernandez, Dr. Kelly	2021	Mooney, Colleen	2008	Prillwitz, Andrea	2019
Macias, The Honorable Karina	2024	Moore, Rachel S.	2024	Prince-Bythewood, Gina	2015
Mack, Karen	2019	Moreno, Alva A.	1993	Prothrow-Stith, M.D., Deborah	2017
MacKinnon, Catharine	1985	Morrison, Jean Y.	2000	Purcell, Sarah	1993
Madison, Paula	2002	Morrison, Kerry	2018	Purl Gray Enterprises	2002
Maestas, Angela Robbins	2012	Morrissey, Joyce C.	1988	Quinn, Grace	1992
Mandel, M.D., Susan A.	2002	Morrow, Esq., Margaret M.	1988	Rainey-Pierson, Dr. Naomi	2023
Manasserian, Elizabeth	2009	Morrow, Margaret L.	1992	Ramos-Rivas, Ph.D., Lourdes I.	2022
Manning, Star	2024	Motta, Elaine	1994	Ransom Von Phul, Maxine	1997
Marin, M.S.W., L.C.S.W., Lisa Hirsch	2009	Murakawa, Phyllis D.	1998	Ratcliffe, Dolores	2005
Marin, Rosa	1989	Murphy, Delta	1985	Reeves, Claire R.	1997
Marshall, Barbara	1997	Nabrit, Gloria A.	1991	Reis Lane, Ann	2019
Martin, Ann	1991	Napolitano, Honorable Grace F.	2018	Reisser, Teri Ketchum	1988
Martin, Esq., Areva	2007	Nathanson, Gayle Wilson	1987	Renteria, Esther	1995
Martin, Minnie Lopez	1988	Naumann, Ziva	1992	Recendez, R.N., M.B.A., N.P., Irene	2012
Martinez, Alma	2014	Nava, Yolanda	2001	Resendez, M.S.W., Irma	2008
Martinez, Becky	1993	Neill, Margaret	2012	Reza, Maria	2006
Martinez-Burgoynes, Toni	1999	Nicholas, M.D., Elisa	1998	Rich, Ph.D., Andrea L.	1992
Mary, Sister Julia	1989	Nichols, Mary A.	2016	Ricketts, Vera	1999
Matsumoto, Sharon	2000	Nishimura, M.A., OT/R/L, Terri Chew	2011	Ride, Joyce	1994
Maxwell, Barbara	1985	Nishio, Yvonne Wong	1988	Robinson, Brenda Lyle Dyson	2014
McBeth, Honorable Veronica	2001	Ocen, Priscilla A.	2021	Robinson-Flint, Janette	2019
McCarty, Shirley C.	1987	Olson, Connie LaFace	1993	Robles, Ph.D., Darline P.	2010
McClain-Hill, Cynthia	2022	Pacheco, Susan	2021	Rodriguez, Diana	2018
McKeever, Candace Bond	2014	Padilla, Veronica	2021	Roemer, J.D., Ruth	1992
McClaney, Dr. La-Doris	2011	Painter, Captain Carol A.	1988	Rogers, Antoinette	2012
McDonald, Honorable Juanita	1995	Papadakis, Angie	2007	Rose, Carolyn	2012
McGreivy, Susan Douglas	1986	Pasadena Celebrates 2020	2020		
McMillon, Danielle	2024	Pavley, Honorable Fran	2008		
Means, Patricia A.	2002				

“Women of the Year” Awardees Since 1985

(CONTINUED)

Rouff, Antonia M.	2010	Spiller, Sheryl L.	2012	Waddell-Wheeler, R.N., M.N.,	
Rowe, Ph.D., Karen	1988	Spinner, Wendy	2019	Malinda	2004
Rowen, Carol L.	1999	Staig, Tema L.	2023	Wagle, Mary-Jane	2001
Roybal-Allard,		Steele-Small, Veronica	2001	Wahl, Doris	2006
Honorable Lucille	2005	Steinhauser, Susan	1994	Wallace, Adele	1993
Saint James, Synthia	2004	Stephenson R.N., Jeannie	2006	Wallace, Simone	1993
Salinas, Josefa	2020	Stewart, Anthony	2005	Ward-Wallace, Celia	2024
Salinas, Maria	1996	Stotzer, Beatriz Olvera	1998	Washington, Faye	2011
Salkin, Dorothy	1995	Sturges, Joanne	1995	Washington, Melaine	2003
Sánchez,		Su, Julie A.	2019	Washington, Pauletta Pearson	2009
Honorable Dr. Monica	2023	Suh, J.D, Debra	2015	Waters, Honorable Maxine	1997
Sanchez-Gordon,		Sutherland, Karen	2013	Watts, M.D., Juanita L.	2010
Honorable Teresa	2002	Suto, Kathryn	2014	Weintraub, Roberta	1986
Sandoval, Cecilia	1985	Tanaka, Eddy S.	1987	West, Miriam Mimi	1994
Sazo-Gonzalez, Ericka	2016	Tate, Tracy R.	2004	Wiggins, Stephanie	2024
Scherr, Robin D.	1993	Taylor, Barbara	2002	Whitmore, Marcella A.	1991
Schmidt, Joan	2014	Temple, Marsha	2013	Whitney, Shirley	1985
Schneider M.D., Diana	2006	The Leadership Core of La Voz		Wilder, Judith Luther	1997
Schultz, Sandra P.	2017	Chicana Y Latina	1998	Wilson, Blenda J.	1997
Schuster, Sharon	1989	The Women of		Witmeyer, Denise	2003
Selwyn, Lynn (Posthumously)	1994	Proyecto Renacimiento	2007	Wong, Esq., Doreena	2017
Sejpal-Parmar, Nirupa	2009	Thomas, Jennifer	1992	Wong Esq., Kimberly	2006
Shamberger, Wihelmina	1985	Thomas,		Wood, Ph.D., Marion Morse	1987
Shaw, Marcine	1987	Dr. Sandra E. Thomas	2010	Wright, Senator Cathie	1994
Shepherd, Dorothy	1992	Todd Griffin, Kellie	2022	Wu, Cindy	2022
Simril, Renata	2020	Tokuda, Wendy	1995	Wyatt, Ph.D., Gail	2004
Sherrod, Dr. Jessie L.	2011	Toriz-Kurkjian, Erika	2023	Yonekura, Margaret Lynn	1999
Sinclair, Rhonda J.	1988	Torres, Celia Gonzales	1987	Yorkin, Peg	1996
Sister Carmel Somers	2003	Torres Galancid, Alexandra	2019	Yoshida, Toshiko	1985
Sister Dominic	1987	Tovar, Irene	1999	Younger, Rebecca A.	1987
Sister Julia Mary	1989	Toyota, Tritia	1992	Zamora, Nancy	1993
Sister Una Connolly	2003	Triessl Esq., Alison Fay	2006	Zimmerman, Dr. Jill	2023
Smith, Chanel	2024	Trosclair Duncan, Lauren	2022		
Smith, Kathy	2011	Underhill, Brenda	1988		
Smith, Dr. Robina M.	2014	Van de Kamp, Andrea	1999		
Smylie, Tulynn	2011	Van der Valk, Linda	2015		
So, Caylee	2017	Van Hook, Dr. Dianne G.	2009		
Solis, Dr. Beatriz Maria	2011	Van Lieu, Shirley	1985		
Solis, Honorable Hilda L.	1995	Van Merter, Estelle	1991		
Solomon, Adinah	2005	Vargas, Gloria	1985		
Solomon, Suzan	2007	Varona-Lukens, Violet	2004		
Somers, Sister Carmel	2003	Vaughan, C.S.J., Judy	2001		
Soto, Rosa	2022	Velez-Mitchell, Jane	2001		
Sparks, Marilyn	2020	Villanueva, Dr. Deborah	2024		
Spencer, Honorable Vaino	1988	Villegas, Mary Ann			
Sperber, Wendie Jo	1999	(Posthumously)	2000		
Spiegel, Marcia Cohn	1997	Volk, Stephanie	1994		

Commission for Women Scholarship Program

For the past 24 years, the Los Angeles County Commission for Women has provided over \$430,000 in scholarships to resilient young women in Los Angeles County to assist them in furthering their educational goals. Proceeds from the “Women of the Year” Luncheon will be used to provide scholarships. Many of these recipients are overcoming hardships such as homelessness, domestic violence, and poverty. Due to the special and varied circumstances these young women are in, these unique scholarship awards allow recipients to take personal responsibility for deciding how to allot the funds towards their education to pay for fundamental expenses such as tuition, books, periodicals, calculators, computer equipment, as well as other life expenses including medical insurance, eyeglasses, child care, transportation or clothing.

The Commission for Women collaborates with several agencies to distribute scholarship applications to young women who meet guidelines for financial need, and plan to pursue educational goals. These agencies include: the Department of Public Social Services, Department of Children and Family Services, Probation Department, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and the Boys and Girls Club.

The Commission for Women is dedicated to serving as a positive role model for the recipients and mentoring these young women throughout the duration of their scholarship and, at times, beyond. Yearly, scholarship recipients attend a half day orientation hosted by the Commission where they receive valuable information from County departments and organizations on topics such as women’s health, dating abuse, consumer literacy, and the importance of physical activity. The recipients also receive a certificate and are acknowledged by the Board of Supervisors during a scholarship celebratory event.

The Los Angeles County Commission for Women once again congratulates all the past recipients and wishes them all the best in their educational and personal endeavors. Donations to the Commission can be designated for scholarships by contacting the Commission at laccw@bos.lacounty.gov or at **213-974-1455**. For more information on the scholarship program please visit laccw.lacounty.gov.



1999-2023 Scholarship Recipients

1999

Tracy Ayala
Jessica Carter
Nyisha Davis
Mary Gardner
Michelle Gonzales
Monica Himes
Lluana Juaregui
Sandra Jauregui
Catherine Miller
Claudia Moya
Gaesheia Price
Ravin Roberts
Syreeta Tyrrell
Karla Uvence
Tamie Washington

2000

Laura Castro
Flosieta Davis
Kimberly Felix
Rebecca Gonzalez
Leah Kierstead
Liberte Locke
Grazziella
Powell-Quevedo
Melissa Peterson
Krystyle Plair
Lisa Pitman
Robin Ricks
Nancy Romero
Bielka Rivera
Itza Tellez
Stephanie Trombetta

2001/2002

Nidia Aguilar
Kathy Alvarado
Danielle Butts
Stephanie Castro
Jessica Cristanelli
Rozalynne Ellerbee
Noemi Garcia
Elizabeth Getten
Lauren Greenman
Cintia Hernandez

Toni Jackson
Melody Joyner
Alicia Juarez
Janira Morales
Ruth Ponce
Rosamaria Ramos
May Salcedo
Kimberly Ann Thoma
Rai-nesha Weldon
Chiquita Williams

2002/2003

Erika Acosta
Morgan Aguilar
Marisol Arroyo
Camille W. M. Balsz
Shawna Cupples
Cinthia Escobar
Shayla Ellis
Belinda Fierro
Marisol Garcia
Rosa Garcia
Nicole Handrinos
Faith Jordan
Cindy Klungreseter
Taylor Kutt
Alicia Lewis
Misha Tess Luciano
Candi Marsh
Natalie Marie Rodriguez
Gloria Pierce
Melissa Salvador
La'Shana Verdon
Kara Shaw-Day
Vanessa Valdez
Valerie Velasquez
Maybel Zepeda

2003/2004

Dolores Argueta
Nguyen Bui
Monique Bradford
Andeyata Burks
April Castro
Rosanna Cook
Keishawna Devance

Evelyn Frias
Maria Guerrero
Kristina Gutierrez
Sophie Harvard
Crystal Johnson
Diana Lopez
Yessica Martinez
Erma Mickens
Erica Murray
Davy Nhem
Yelena Ovcharenko
Katherine Orellana
Laura Orozco
Nancy Quinones
Helen Ramirez
Isabel Romero
Silvia Rivera
Lindsey Marie Scott
Sharda Smith
Minh Uyen
Lisa Woodard
Leanna Weir
Nicole Whitley
Angelica Zapata

2004/2005

Angelica Bautista
Adelina Bartolome
Veronica Cheesman
Jamita Cobb
Rosanna Cook
Royce Elam
Karen Garcia
Marisol Garcia
Cassandra Gonzalez
Tarae Graves
Cintia Hernandez
Lolita Johnson
Kendra Lockhart
Amanda Mieuse
Davy Nhem
Terminal Perla
Melinda Ramirez
Mirella Raya
Marilynn Ramos
Blanca Menjivar-Tobar

2005/2006

Nayely Araiza
Sandra Beltran
Dulce Cetz
Ashley Datcher
Whitney Ewing
Cinthya Felix
Kimberly Franklin
Genoveva Galvez
Tarae Graves
Cintia Hernandez
Arcelia Islas
Lolita Johnson
Jillian Kaufman
Nicole Little
Michelle McFarland
Davy Nhem
Marilynn Ramos
May Salcedo
Sheila Varnado

2006/2007

Angelica Carter
Erica Cordero
Micheal Culver
Blanca Escuadra
Cinthya Felix
Selenda Gomez
Shatoya Hawthorne
Victoria Helm
Mayra Hernandez
Celeste Hunnel
Davy Nhem Jackson
Desiree Jimenez
Loretta Jordan
Kimberly Franklin
Paula Nansen
Maria Bonilla-Onofre
Nayely Araiza Ontiveros
Magda Penuela
Rosanne Rogel
Elvira Romero
May Salcedo
Sarah Sertic
Starshemah Sulton

1999-2023 Scholarship Recipients

(CONTINUED)

2007/2008

Angelica Bautista
Zena Branch
Dulce Cetz
Cinthya Felix
Kimberly Franklin
Edith Gomez
Selenda Gomez
Yessenia Gonzalez
Chanel Inglesias
Audrey Jackson
Shanerra S. Jones
Veronica Jimenez
Jennifer Madrigal
Megan Mejia
Tehja Oyama
Stephanie Pulido
May Salcedo
Valerie Santiago
Sarah Sertic
Raquel Sierra

2008/2009

Natasha Adamski
Natalie Alvarado
Nayely Araiza
Angelica Bautista
Zaira Cruz
Briana Elliott
Cinthya Felix
Nayelli Felix
Kimberly Franklin
Juliana Gastelum
Shulora Gonzales
Tarae Graves
Maria Guerrero
Mayra Hernandez
Dantavia Howard
Arcelia Islas
Veronica Jimenez
Crystal Johnson
Shanerra Jones
Araciel Juarez
Jennifer Madrigal
Erica McBride
Linda Moy

Susan Melgarejo
Haydee Morales
Melisa Nahimene
Marla Owen
Xiomara Peña
Vanessa Perez
Melody Robinson
Yosseli Rojas
Raquel Sierra
Christina Seigneur
Vanessa Victorian
Diana Velazquez

2009/2010

Angelica Bautista
Esmeralda Benavides
Rionnisha M. Bryant
Marian Dennis
Blanca Escuadra
Tarae Graves
Crystal Horn-Johnson
Mattie Johnson
Angelica Loera
Jennifer Madrigal
Susan Melgarejo
Iana R.
 Maria Miranda
Jaynee' M. Mendez
Jeena D. Mendez
Jelica D. Mendez
Melisa Nahimana
Xiomara Peña
Rosanne Rogel
Yosseli Rojas
Jasmine Torres
Vanessa Victorian

2010/2011

Natasha Adamski
Nayely Araiza
Aminta
 Rodriguez Bigit
Yasiri Bustamante
Kimberly Franklin
Nayelli Felix
Hannah Hayne

Natasha Jones
Mattie Johnson
Araciel Juarez
Linett Luna
Jennifer Madrigal
Erica McBride
Haydee Morales
Melisa Nahimana
Tehja Oyama
Xiomara Peña
Yosseli Rojas
Jasmine Torres
Patricia Santos
Isabel Zavaleta

2012

Angelae Abron
Mariela Araiza
Nayely Araiza
Andrea Baghee
Rosa Barrientos
Maria Camacho
Jennifer Contreras
Blanca Escuadra
Nayelli Felix
Gissell Garcia
Cynthia Gomez
Rosemary Hernandez
Latasha James
Mattie Johnson
Araciel Juarez
Linett Luna
Gina Luiz
Suleykareli Lopez
Cindy Madrigal
Jennifer Madrigal
Erica McBride
Jaynee Mendez
Iana Miranda
Haydee Morales
Karen Nunez
Xiomara Peña
Lourdes Tapia
Jasmine Torres
Mirna Villanueva
Isabel Zavaleta

2013

Jazmine Brooks
Cherlé Brown
Maria Cubillo
Veronica Duran
Desiree Generalao
Sarah Herring
Raven Jackson
Gina Luiz
Cristina Romero
Judeana Velasquez

2014

Marlene Y. Anaya
Evelyn Batres
Veronica Cortez
Raven Jackson
Khanhlinh Le
Jaleesa Mendez
Jaynee M. Mendez
Jelica Mendez
Lucero E. Noyola
Cristina Romero
Alondra Saucedo

2015

Veronica Cortez
Katherine Degadillo Soto
Irene Garcia
Chelsea N. Robinson
Marykathryn Stahnke
Tiffany R. Torres
Christiana M. Tyler
Hang Su
Doanh Yeo

2016

Maribel Flores
Julie A. Grassian
Lucero E. Noyola
Alondra Serrano
Doanh K. Yeo

1999-2025 Scholarship Recipients

(CONTINUED)

2017

Maria Isabel Cubillo
Heather A. Garcia
Alma A. Orduño
Esché L. Jackson
Carmen R. Noyola
Lucero E. Noyola
Alondra Chavarria
Krystal S. Elena
Adela Yudith Garcia
Guadalupe Del Cid
Kristina A. Nabayan
Julia R. Norman
Cindy Huerta
Marykathryn Stanhke
Doanh K. Yeo

2018

Alaine C. Abron
Elijah Arzate
Sonia Avila Contreras
Alondra Chavarria
Josephine R. Cuenca
Elena C. Flores
Bao-Hieu P. Gaureau
Gio Kim
Julia R. Norman
Carmen R. Noyola
Cynthia M. Olmos
Viviane-Lee R. Reed
Lauryn M. Slaughter
Marykathryn Stahnke
Cathrine E. Yam

2019

Alanie C. Abron
Jazmin Cuevas
Eiara Y. Fajardo
Natali Farkouh
Elena C. Flores
Brittany A. Jones
Skylar Kaufeldt-Lira
Gio Kim
Frances E. Melchor
Andrea I. Mercado
Jocelyn Munoz
Alyssa M. Neumann

Phuonguyen Nguyen
Cynthia M. Olmos
Danyell M. Reed
Viviane-Lee R. Reed
Nautica S. Uribe
Jacqueline Vela
Amayah R. Williams
Catherine E. Yam

2020

Maria De Los Angeles
Almaraz
Rebecca E. Arce
Diana Balbuena
Mariela Barrales
Marlene Espinoza
Natasha Floyd
Adela Y. Garcia
Arabi Hassan
Susana Hernandez
Drew A. Jones
Mariah Lima-Kuderer
Elysse Mendoza
Andrea Mora
Julie Ouk
Jacqueline D. Robles
Latifah Safiei
Allanah Smith
Melissa Valencia Damian
Veronica Velez

2021

Chelsea Alvarenga
Evelyn Batres
Kelly Blatter
Karina Corbera
Parenda Foroghi
Chloe Gaume
Julie Grassian
Karla Gutierrez
Jasmine Jhamb
Sirjen Kaur
Gabriela Mendoza
Wansulee Pongsuwan
Zoe Romano
Elanti Safaei
Jasmine Zendejas

2022

Janel Elizabeth Blessing
Norma Carner
Brenda Yaneth Coronel
Alejandra Fregozo Vargas
Ashley Symone Hackett
Genesys Hernandez
Anjelica Kathleen Jewell
Hymel
Masai Mendez
Lorena Yacmin Montoya
Anh Vu Lien Nguyen
Anna Solodovnikova
Kathleen Braisley Veano
Jacqueline Vela
Veronica Lynn Wehle
Odalys Zapata

2023

Brianna Audrey Arriola
Estrella Barcenás
Stephanie Barcenás
Kiara Yessenia Cobenas
Julia Alexandra Garcia
Kara Bridget Glaser
Blanca Angela Godoy
Julie Grassian
Virginia Gutierrez
Sekai Theodosia Beard
Jordan
Cinthya Valencia Nambo
Miriam Torres Sanchez
Jasmine Suubi Setenza
Alejandra Fregozo Vargas
Kylah LaCre Warren

2024

Claudia Sosa Alcazar
Liana Beserra
Christine Ariel Bourne
Helen Burnett
Jessica Delazari
Ye Gao
Blanca Angela Godoy
Marissa Anne Gomez
Virginia Gutierrez
Sarisha Ibarra

Lakshmi Shilav Jimenez
Rickell Alanae Lewis
Terran Li
Diana Moreno
Nina Linh Ngoc Nguyen
Amanda Kate Nordquist-Rodriguez
Laura Erica Castaneda
Perez
Hein Shim
Nicole Taylor Wedel
Tamaira Hadiza Yahaya

2025

Jamie Bender
Karen Dianne D. Campos
Mazel Faith Ceniza
Chastity J. Collado
Isabel Lizabeth Gonzalez
Kelli S. Haupage
Astrid A. Hernandez
Samantha James
Ava C. LaLonde
Zixin Li
Nijah S. Mendez
Inez M. Meraz-Lerma
Caitlyn O. Oppong
Adriana Orellana-Barrientos
Kalmykova Yana

Congratulations

TO THE 2026 WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDEES

SUSIE B. BALDWIN, MD, MPH, FACPM

THE HONORABLE KAMALA HARRIS

CATALINA M. HINOJOSA,

KERRI N. HARPER-HOWIE

DR. LUCY JONES

THE HONORABLE CONGRESSWOMAN SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

ALYCE D. LAVIOLETTE

MELODY LOMBOY-LOWE

DR. MARISELA K. MONTOYA

ZOE A. NICHOLSON

LILA M. OMURA

DR. ARMIDA O. ORNELAS

PAULINA P. PALOMINO

SONYA PASSI

NICOLE HARPER RAWLINS

JENNIFER D. ROBERSON

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NELLIE L. SCOTT

COMMANDER JENNIFER SEETO

GERI SILVA

DR. MARIE S. TORRES



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Los Angeles County Supervisor

HILDA L. SOLIS

First District • Chair

**Los Angeles County Board Chair
and First District Supervisor
Hilda L. Solis proudly supports the
Los Angeles County Commission
for Women's Commemorative
50th Anniversary and the Women
of the Year's 40th Anniversary
Celebration.**

**Your commitment to
empowering women and
young girls across Los Angeles
County continues to make a
profound impact in our
communities.**

    @hildasolis



Congratulations



40TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF THE YEAR COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATION



LA COUNTY'S SECOND DISTRICT 2025 HONOREE

Lila Omura



LA COUNTY'S SECOND DISTRICT 2026 HONOREE

Nicole Harper Rawlins



LA COUNTY'S SECOND DISTRICT 2026 HONOREE

Kerri Harper-Howie



HOLLY J. MITCHELL

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR ♦ 2ND DISTRICT

Mitchell.LACounty.Gov    @HollyJMitchell



Gold Sponsor

CONGRATULATIONS



Dr. Armida Ornelas

COLLEGE PRESIDENT
EDUCATOR • COMMUNITY LEADER

2026 THIRD DISTRICT HONOREE

LAMC PRESIDENT

**EAST SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
COMMUNITY LEADER**



LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR

LINDSEY

Horvath
THIRD DISTRICT

CONGRATULATIONS



Commander Jennifer Seetoo

COMMANDER • PUBLIC SAFETY LEADER
COMMUNITY PARTNER

2026 THIRD DISTRICT HONOREE

LASD COMMANDER

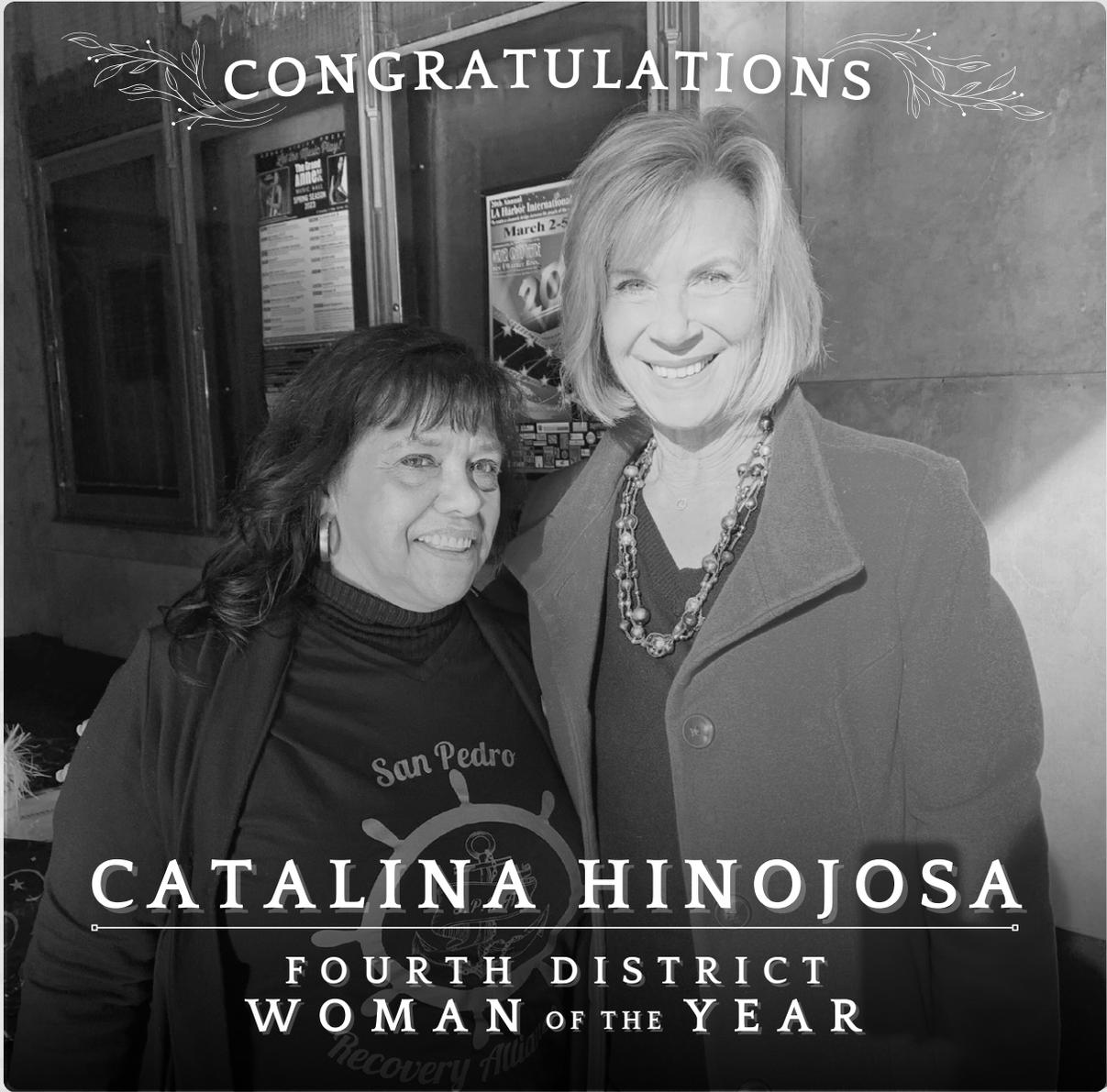
**THIRD DISTRICT
PUBLIC SAFETY LEADER**



LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR

LINDSEY

Horvath
THIRD DISTRICT



CONGRATULATIONS

CATALINA HINOJOSA

FOURTH DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Catalina, thank you for your extraordinary commitment to bringing healing and hope to some of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Your courage and compassion are an inspiration.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SUPERVISOR • FOURTH DISTRICT

JANICE HAHN

Gold Sponsor



Congratulations, Dr. Lucy Jones!

Seismologist • Founder • Author
Researcher • Expert • Advocate

————— ◆ —————
I'm proud to honor Dr. Jones as
Fifth District Woman of the Year
for her invaluable perspective
and commitment to making our
communities more resilient.



Kathryn
BARGER

5th District Supervisor • County of Los Angeles



Ruby Sponsors



Kaiser Permanente is a proud supporter of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women 40th Annual Women of the Year Luncheon.

A Better Idea for Health Care.
Learn more at about.kp.org.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2026 WOMEN OF THE YEAR HONOREES

Your Work and contributions in our community improves and enhance the social welfare of the region, and local economy.

Your efforts close persistent equity gaps, and prepare future community leaders!

LACCD

Los Angeles Community
College District



Ruby Sponsors

Inspiring Our Community

The Port of Long Beach is pleased to join the Los Angeles Commission for Women in recognizing the outstanding Women of the Year. Congratulations on the Commission's 50th and the gala's 40th anniversaries!



CELEBRATING OUR ELAC HONOREES

Dr. Armida Ornelas

FORMER VICE PRESIDENT

Paulina Palomino

DEAN, STUDENT SERVICES

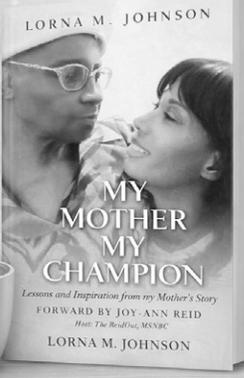
**EAST LOS
ANGELES
COLLEGE**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
OF THE WOMEN OF THE
YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS!**

Silver Sponsors

A HEARTFELT MEMOIR of LOVE, STRENGTH, and INSPIRATION



LORNA M. JOHNSON

MY MOTHER MY CHAMPION

Lessons and Inspiration from my Mother's Story

FORWARD BY JOY-ANN REID
Host: The Real One, MSNBC

LORNA M. JOHNSON



NEW BOOK BY
LORNA M. JOHNSON

MY MOTHER MY CHAMPION

Lessons and Inspiration from my Mother's Story

“Celebrate the unbreakable bond and inspiring journey of a daughter and her mother who overcame adversity together.”

Lorna M. Johnson

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Jollibee®

Long Beach City College proudly supports the

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN'S 40TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON

Congratulations to all of the Women of the Year honorees!

You are trailblazers whose leadership, advocacy, and service create lasting change in our communities.

LBTM

LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE

LBCC.EDU

50th

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

CELEBRATING 50 Years OF ADVOCATING FOR THE LIVES AND WELL-BEING OF WOMEN

Wesley Health Centers proudly congratulates
Los Angeles County Commission for Women and

Dr. Marie Torres

On being honored at the
40th Anniversary Woman of the Year Gala.

Dr. Torres's leadership, integrity, and unwavering
commitment to advancing health equity continue to
strengthen our organization and
the communities we serve.

As we celebrate 65 years of providing compassionate,
community-based care, we are proud to stand
alongside her as she receives this distinguished honor.



Congratulations

Los Angeles County Commission
for Women on your 40th Anniversary
Commemorative Ruby Celebration Gala
and to all of 2026 Award nominees.

The Executive Team of
St. Anne's Family Services



SAVE-THE-DATE

2026
*Evening of
Angels*

—FRIDAY—

MAY 15, 2026

**Taglyan Complex,
Hollywood**

Reception: 5:30 PM (PST)
Dinner & Program: 7:00 PM

For additional details, please

Scan QR Code or visit:

stannes.org

f @/stannestoday



Journal Supporters

Congratulations

DR. ARMIDA O. ORNELAS
2026 THIRD DISTRICT 40TH WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD
AND COMMUNITY SHERO AWARD

AND
MS. PAULINA P. PALOMINO
FOR THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
WOMAN OF THE YEAR
COMMUNITY SHERO AWARD



¡FELICITACIONES!
YOU REPRESENT THE BEST
OF OUR COMMUNITY
¡VIVA LA MUJER!

CON CARIÑO
ALFRED, JUANA & IRMA

Thank you

**From all of us with the Los Angeles
DV & Health Care Leadership
Council, we congratulate the Los
Angeles County Commission for
Women on 50 years of service!**



www.DVHCLA.org

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES!

We look forward to continuing our partnership to
protect and promote reproductive equity and
sexual and reproductive health care for all



essentialaccess.org



Special Acknowledgements

Los Angeles County Commission for Women and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
extend their appreciation to our Corporate Sponsors and all those who helped make this event successful.

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**McDonald's SoCal
Bubbles & Ballgowns**

Gold Sponsors

**First Supervisorial District
Second Supervisorial District
Third Supervisorial District
Fourth Supervisorial District
Fifth Supervisorial District**

Ruby Sponsors

**Kaiser Permanente
Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD)
Port of Long Beach
East Los Angeles Foundation (ELAC)**

Silver Sponsors

**Gelson's
Jollibee
Lorna M. Johnson Global Foundation Inc.
Long Beach City College
West Los Angeles University**

Special Acknowledgements

Special Thanks To:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Color Guard
Lieutenant Adriana Mejia, Sergeant Sarenas Mooangprang,
Deputy Miranda Carvahlo, and Deputy Clarissa Prentice

Leah Weatherspoon Girl Scouts Troop # 5235

Mariachi Divas

Commission Services Staff,
Photography, Video and Graphic Arts Unit
Internal Services Department

Goodie Bag & Silent Auction Donors

Irma Archuleta, Denise Diaz, Julie Friedman, James Raymond Hattem, Dr. Michael Obeng, Christopher Usuade: Centurion Black Jet



LORNA JOHNSON



Kathryn BARGER
Chair • Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors • 8th District



bugatti



THE BILTMORE
LOS ANGELES



Polo Lounge



Somerville
Crate&Barrel

Event Sponsor

Bubbles & Ballgowns

Established in 2019, is an annual ladies celebration of fashion, community and charitable impact.



Our dress sale, fashion show, silent auction and raffle have allowed us to donate to the following local non-profit organizations;

- The Richstone Family Center
- A Work In Progress
- Wijaba (The World Is Just A Book Away)
- A Mayberry Christmas
- CJ's Smile
- The Los Angeles County Commission For Women Resilience Scholarship Program

Bubbles & Ballgowns

JOIN US

April 16th 2026. We will be donating to not one but four amazing organizations. **Make Good Inc, Hope In A Suitcase, Film2Future,** and **For Goodness Cakes** all supporting Foster youth.

If you would like to join us, find tickets on [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com). Can't make the event but would like to make a difference for a young person?

Please donate to Venmo business account [@Bubblesandballgowns](https://www.venmo.com/Bubblesandballgowns). Thank you!

Follow us on Instagram at [@bubbles.and.ballgowns](https://www.instagram.com/bubbles.and.ballgowns)



LOS ANGELES COUNTY

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

CELEBRATING *50 Years* OF ADVOCATING FOR THE LIVES AND WELL-BEING OF WOMEN

LACCW.LACOUNTY.GOV