



press release

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Hispanic Heritage Month brings Significant Awards to NCSHP Board Members for their Work in Education *NCSHP Board Member and Co-Founder, Susan Zarate and NCSHP Board Member MariaRosa Rangel, Honored by Cary Magazine, Diamante Inc., and Univision 40*

Cary, NC, November 8, 2013 – As Hispanic Heritage month comes to a close, the NC Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP) is delighted to announce that two of our Board Members were recognized last month for their work in Education and their dedication to Latino students. On October 18, Cary Magazine honored Susan Zarate, Board Member and Co-Founder of NCSHP, with the “Women of Western Wake” award for her volunteer work in the area of education. On October 26, MariaRosa Rangel, Board Member of NCSHP received the “Latino Diamante” award in the Education category and on October 30 she received the “Orgullo de Nuestra Comunidad” (the Pride of our Community) award from Univision 40 for her dedication to the Latino community through education.

The “Women of Western Wake” award was established in 2005 by Cary Magazine to honor and spotlight the female influencers in Cary and Western Wake. This year, Susan Zarate was one of five winners to receive this award. She was recognized for her volunteer work with NCSHP as a co-founder and board member for almost 15 years, and for her work as an educator with the Wake County Public Schools for more than 20 years. Ms. Zarate is ESL Academy Teacher and ESL Department Head at Cary High School. With NCSHP, she has taken a leadership role in the technical planning of educational achievement conferences and workshops presented by NCSHP, and the implementation of the North Carolina Hispanic College Fund established by NCSHP at Triangle Community Foundation.

Susan Zarate was portrayed in the September/October 2013 edition of the Cary Magazine. Susan said, “If you care for students, they know it...They know when you care for them and when you don’t, when you are really interested in them for who they are”. At the heart of her work is a passion for students and empowering them to finish high school and go on to college. She encourages all teachers to take the time to get to know their students as a fundamental strategy for success.

The “Latino Diamante” is a statewide awards program created by Diamante, Inc. to recognize outstanding achievement and to honor people, like MariaRosa Rangel, who are making significant contributions to the Hispanic community of North Carolina. The “Orgullo de Nuestra Comunidad” (the Pride of our Community) award by Univision 40, is part of Univision 40’s commitment to the local Hispanic community and a celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. It is a way to recognize outstanding Hispanic leaders in our local community.

MariaRosa Rangel was recognized by both Diamante Inc. and Univision 40 for her outstanding work with Latino students and families in her role as Senior Administrator for Family and Community Engagement at Wake County Public Schools as well as her community leadership in education as a Board Member of the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals. MariaRosa brings over 20 years of experience working with the Latino population to her accomplishments and makes it her mission to empower Latino students and families through education.

“I am humbled and thankful for the two awards I received. They represent the students and parents I work with...I get to see many students graduate and become productive citizens. I also see many students, especially Latino students not graduate. This is one of the many challenges I face daily, and I take very personal. This is what drives me to collaborate with community organizations - to engage and educate the Latino parents on how to navigate the educational and other systems, so that they can better support their child to become academically successful ready to graduate and become productive citizens.”, said Ms. Rangel. Her vignette was aired to thousands of viewers on Univision 40 throughout the month of October.

“NCSHP is proud to have such talent and ambition on its Board of Directors. It is people like Susan and MariaRosa who not only help us serve our mission of promoting education among Hispanic youth but stand as prime examples of what we hope our Latino youth strive to be.”, remarks Brienne Pasick, NCSHP Director.

The North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP) is a statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose only mission is to promote education among Hispanic youth. Acknowledging the under representation of Hispanic youths in higher education, and seeing the need for role models, it is the intent of the NCSHP to develop and secure educational opportunities and financial support to improve Hispanic youth’s success and school performance.

For more information about the NCSHP, and how to become a member, a volunteer, a sponsor, or a recipient of their educational programs, please visit our website at www.thencshp.org or contact us at (919) 467-8424 or at mailbox@TheNCSHP.org