


# LULAC NEWS

Summer 2011



LULAC  
NATIONAL  
*Legislative Conference  
& Awards Gala*



**On Cover:**  
**Margaret Moran**  
*LULAC National  
President*

## Challenging Times:

- A Fiscal Crisis of Our Own Making
- Voting Rights in Texas, Puerto Rico
- New Corporate Partnerships
- Expansion in Utah, California
- Closing the Student Achievement Gap
- Convention Rules and Amendments

## Smithsonian Latino Center Selects LULAC Member Christina Uranga as Intern

In 1994, *Willful Neglect*, a report of the Smithsonian Institution Task Force on Latino Issues clearly proved that a Hispanic presence was missing at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Soon after, the Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives, which was later changed and shortened to the Smithsonian Latino Center (SLC), was created to coordinate programs and exhibits on Latino culture throughout the Smithsonian. Since its founding in 1997, the SLC has developed more than 300 projects from living exhibitions to live arts performances.

Under the helm of Director Eduardo Diaz, and his staff, the Latino Center has grown tremendously over time, developing outstanding education and outreach programs, such as the Young Ambassadors Program, a national leadership develop-



participants to increase the representation, documentation, knowledge and interpretation of Latino art, culture and history.

The SLC is also a pioneer in the future of museum technology and the way people interact and learn online. It has successfully created The Smithsonian Latino Virtual Museum, an avatar-based, 3-D learning environment that is focused on the representation of cultural heritage using cutting-edge technology.

Overall there has been positive improvement at The Smithsonian Institution since

TX, will be able to experience working with the Latino Center this summer. She has been selected as

part of the James E. Webb Internship Program for Minority Undergraduate Juniors, Seniors and

Graduate Students in Business and Public Administration. The Program is part of The Office of Fellowships and Internships at the Smithsonian that offers internships and visiting student awards to increase participation of U.S. minority groups who are underrepresented in Smithsonian programs, research, and in the museum field. Cristina will work with the SLC Director and staff to research and develop strategic program proposals for The Smithsonian Institution "Mission Critical Programs" via the Smithsonian Channel. She will also research and submit proposals geared towards developing strategic uses of marketing and new media and technology tools, with the aim of aiding fundraising goals for specific SLC projects/initiatives such as the Latino Virtual Museum. Cristina is a member of LULAC 4871 and a straight ally to the LGBT community.

For more information on The Smithsonian Latino Center contact: Danny López, Smithsonian Latino Center, Program & Marketing Manager: (202) 633-0804 <http://latino.si.edu/> To contact Cristina Uranga: [curanga@smu.edu](mailto:curanga@smu.edu)



Cristina Uranga



Latin Jazz artist and four-time Grammy nominee, John Santos, at JAM 2011 demonstrating how to use a Chekere.

ment program for high school seniors that cultivates the next generation of Latino leaders in the arts and culture fields; and the Latino Museum Studies Program, a program for graduate students and mid-career professionals that enhances the leadership, research and creative skills of the

the 1994 report and although there is much more room for growth it will be up to the young leaders in our community to continue working towards that future.

Cristina Uranga, originally from El Paso, TX and now a graduate student (MBA/MA) at Southern Methodist University in Dallas,