

Secretary Lonnie G. Bunch III
Board of Regents
The Smithsonian Institution
1000 Jefferson Drive, SW
Room 205
Washington, DC 20560

Dear Secretary Bunch and Board of Regents:

We the undersigned national and community leaders and advocates want to underscore our strong and unwavering support for the Smithsonian and its work to ensure that the new National Museum of the American Latino be located on the National Mall, alongside the 11 other highly visible and revered museums that tell the story of America to millions of visitors each year.

We commend you for narrowing your focus and prioritizing the South Monument site and Tidal Basin site as the potential future homes of the National Museum of the American Latino and the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum. Today's announcement is a clear statement on the significance of these museums to our American history, and highlights the importance of placing them on our nation's grandest stage.

Many of the organizations and individuals on this letter have worked tirelessly for nearly 30 years to secure the establishment of this museum, dating back to the ground-breaking report, *Willful Neglect* and its core recommendation for a Smithsonian Museum dedicated to over 500 years of U.S. Latino contributions to American history. For almost three decades we have worked on fulfilling the report's recommendation that this museum be built on the National Mall. We know that without a Latino Museum, the story of America the Smithsonian is dedicated to showcasing will be at best, incomplete, and at worst, inaccurate.

As embodied by those of us in this letter, the goal of a National Museum of the American Latino on the National Mall has widespread and deep support in the Latino community that cuts across party lines and represents every sector from government to business to academia to the arts to nonprofit and advocacy organizations. The Museum has always had, and continues to have, strong bipartisan support in Congress and among elected officials across the country.

We are very appreciative of the considerable progress the Smithsonian has made in ensuring greater representation of Latinos and Latinas in the Institution, especially in its staffing that includes a significant increase in the number of Latinx curators in virtually all the museums under the Smithsonian's umbrella. To that end, the recent opening of the Molina Family Latino Gallery in the Museum of American History is a milestone moment both for the Smithsonian and for the Latino Museum. We believe the Molina Family Latino Gallery, along with the progress the Smithsonian has made in incorporating the Latino perspective, provide the foundation that the Latino Museum needs to guarantee that it is "ready to go" once we can finalize the site and begin construction of the building.

As such, to build on the significant funding that has already been pledged, we and many others in the Latino community are firmly committed to raising the funds necessary for the museum's completion. We also stand ready to work with Congress to determine the best legislative path forward to transfer authority of the South Monument site and Tidal Basin site to the Smithsonian.

Thank you for the amazing work and progress you have made to establish our museum. We look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

1. Acevedo Foundation
2. Alivio Medical Center
3. American Federation of Teachers (AFT)
4. American GI Forum of the U.S
5. American Jewish Committee (AJC)
6. Amplify Latinx
7. Artes Miami
8. Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS)
9. Association of Latino Professionals For America (ALPFA)
10. Avenida Guadalupe Association
11. CASA in Action
12. Canal Alliance
13. Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
14. Centro Cultural de Washington County (CENTRO)
15. Centro Hispano Daniel Torres, Inc.
16. Centro Hispano de East Tennessee
17. Chicano Federation
18. Clínicas de Salud del Pueblo
19. Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)
20. Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)
21. Comunidades Unidas
22. Committee for Hispanic Children & Families (CHCF)
23. Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI)
24. CPLC New Mexico, Inc.
25. Dialogue on Diversity
26. Dominico-American Society of Queens
27. East Bay Spanish Speaking Citizens' Foundation
28. East Boston Community Council (EBCC)
29. East Coast Migrant Head Start Project (ECMHSP)
30. East LA Community Corporation (ELACC)
31. Eastmont Community Center
32. Edu-Futuro
33. El Centro de la Raza
34. El Centro, Inc.
35. El Centro de Servicios Sociales, Inc
36. El Centro Hispano, Inc.
37. El Concilio California
38. El Concilio/Hispanic American Council Inc.
39. El Paso Community Action Program Project BRAVO, Inc.
40. Encuentro
41. Enlace Chicago
42. Erie Neighborhood House
43. Esperanza

44. Esperanza, Inc.
45. Esperanza Health Centers
46. Excelencia In Education
47. Farmworker Justice
48. Friendly House
49. Friends of the American Latino Museum
50. Greater Lawrence Community Action Council (GLCAC)
51. Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
52. Haven Services Inc.
53. HELP New Mexico, Inc.
54. Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement (HACE)
55. Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)
56. Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR)
57. Hispanic Federation
58. Hispanic Heritage Foundation
59. Hispanics in Philanthropy
60. Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama (iHICA!)
61. Hispanic National Bar Association
62. Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc.
63. HOLA Ohio
64. Ibero-American Action League Inc.
65. Illinois Migrant Council
66. Justice for Migrant Women
67. LA Collab
68. La Causa, Inc.
69. La Clínica de la Raza
70. Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.
71. Latin American Community Center of Delaware
72. The Latin American Economic Development Association, Inc. (LAEDA)
73. The Latino Coalition
74. The Latino Donor Collaborative
75. Latino Leaders Network
76. Latino Memphis
77. Latino Network
78. Latinos in Higher Ed
79. Latino U College Access (LUCA)
80. The Latinx House
81. League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
82. MANA, A National Latina Organization
83. Mattie Rhodes Center
84. Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs
85. Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA)
86. Mi Casa Resource Center
87. Mi Familia Vota
88. Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee on Anti-Poverty
89. Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
90. Mexican American Unity Council, Inc.(MAUC)
91. Montebello Housing Development Corporation

92. Mujeres Latinas en Acción
93. National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB)
94. National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives (NAHFE)
95. The National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC)
96. The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO)
97. National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP)
98. The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL)
99. National Hispanic Council on Aging
100. The National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts (NHFA)
101. The National Hispanic Media Coalition (NHMC)
102. National Latino Farmers & Ranchers
103. Neighborhood Housing Services of Queens CDC
104. Northeast Ohio Hispanic Center for Economic Development
105. Northwest Center
106. One Stop Career Center of PR Inc
107. Para Los Niños
108. Poder
109. Poderistas
110. PODER, Oregon's Latino Leadership Network
111. Project Vida Health Center
112. Prospanica
113. Sea Mar Community Health Centers
114. SER Jobs for Progress National, Inc.
115. Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
116. Southwest Economic Solutions
117. Spanish American Civic Association for Equality, Inc.
118. Strategic Alliance for Leadership and Social Action
119. SUMA Wealth
120. UnidosUS
121. United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
122. U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
123. Valle del Sol
124. Voces at UT Austin
125. Voto Latino
126. The Wall Las Memorias
127. We Are All Human