



**Latino Community Development Agency, Inc.**

420 SW 10th Street / Oklahoma City, OK 73109

405-236-0701 / [www.lcdaok.org](http://www.lcdaok.org)

**For Oklahoma's Kids. For Oklahoma's Families.  
For Oklahoma's Future.**

**2022  
Fall Newsletter**



**Pat López, John C. López**



**Dr. Leslie Rainbolt**

## ***31st Anniversary Luncheon***

# **OKC Mayor David Holt Reminds Guests of the Positive Impact Latinos Have on the City's Growth**

Latino business leader **John C. López**, pediatric clinic founder **Dr. Leslie Rainbolt** and architect **Duane Mass** received special recognition for their numerous contributions to LCDA and Latinos in central Oklahoma during the LCDA Annual Awards and Recognition luncheon held on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

John C. López, who received the "Lifetime Achievement Award," is the founder of Lopez Foods, Inc. headquartered in Oklahoma City, OK. López Foods is a state-of-the-art meat processing facility that supplies beef, pork, and poultry products to some of the largest restaurant chains in the world. The company now employs more than 700 people. Following Mr. López's move to Oklahoma from southern California in the early 90s, he became involved with LCDA, as both a board member and donor.

Dr. Rainbolt received the luncheon's "Honorary Chair Award." In 1995, while in medical school, and in collaboration with LCDA and members of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, she helped establish Clínica Amistad, a pediatric clinic for Latinos in south Oklahoma City. And it was a family affair. Dr. Rainbolt's father, Gene, donated the funds necessary to purchase the clinic's new site, at 420 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street, where the clinic and many of LCDA's other programs remain today.

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Mass Architects Inc. received the “Partner Agency Award.” Dr. Font states, “Duane Mass, who has built an excellent staff of design professionals, has always supported LCDA’s work by taking our dreams and implementing them. Through the years, Mass Architects Inc. has generously provided their work on a pro bono basis, and the firm has introduced us to and recruited partners for our work. Very simply, Mass Architects is committed to advancing our work that benefits the Latino community.”

Other award recipients included the **OKC Dodgers**, “Guardian Angel Award”; **Deysi and Alvaro Macario**, “Family of the Year Award”; **Damaris Summer and Janys Esparza**, “Employees of the Year”; **Richard Lane**, “Board Member of the Year”; **Mario Medrano**, “President’s Award”; and Channel 9 reporter **Feliz Romero**, “Mistress of Ceremonies Award.”

Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt made brief remarks at the beginning of the program, where he credited Latinos with the city’s significant population increase, and noted their many different contributions to the community’s diverse and expanding culture.

The 600-person luncheon serves as LCDA’s largest single fundraising event. **López Foods** was the “**Padrinos**” Host Sponsor. “**Compadres**” sponsors included **BlueCross & BlueShield of Oklahoma**, **Calle Dos Cinco in Historic Capitol Hill**, **The Chickasaw Nation**, **MidFirst Bank**, and the **University of Central Oklahoma**.



Dr. Raúl Font, Reyna Font



Feliz Romero, Stephanie Pena



Gene Rainbolt, Dr. Leslie Rainbolt



Eddie Rodriguez for Richard Lane



Dr. Mautra Staley Jones, Kathy López



Robin Mass, Duane Mass



Brenda Medrano, Mario Medrano



Dr. Raúl Font, Kelly Forbes, Marti Rickman

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## Nearly Three Dozen Latino Students Receive LCDA Scholarships

An important part of LCDA's holistic approach to client services addresses infants, children and teens, and this includes programs that address physical, mental and behavioral health, education and a variety of social services. An important program element includes college scholarships. Since 2002, LCDA has awarded 780 scholarships totaling \$747,260.

This year, LCDA awarded \$43,000 in scholarships to 35 students, including 24 high school seniors and 11 college-level students. The distribution includes eight \$2,000 scholarships, twenty-four \$1,000 scholarships and two \$1,500 scholarships.

Scholarships were made possible this year through the generosity of **Arvest Foundation** and **SONIC Foundation**, each donating \$10,000, and the following donors: **Marinco, LLC**, **Bank of Oklahoma**, **Enterprise Holdings**, **Prosperity Bank**, the **Cagigal family** and **Phillips Murrah**.

Students receiving scholarships this year attend the following educational institutions: University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma City Community College, Southern Nazarene University, Rogers State University, Tulsa Community College, Oral Roberts University, Mid-America University and USC.

## Helping Latino Kids Excel in OKC Public Schools

Recognizing that Latinos represent 54% of current OKCPS students, LCDA seeks to relaunch the bilingual Latino Youth Leadership Club Program, founded in 1991, but that closed in 2021 due to a loss of government financial support, and COVID-19-related school closures and in-person meeting bans.

This in-school, curriculum-based program, identifies and assists low-income, at-risk Latino middle and high school students in selected OKCPS locations by providing them with a positive peer group and knowledge and tools to allow them to envision and realize a positive future.

Program components reinforce the benefits and importance of staying in school, making good grades and attending college. School administrators and parents are part of the program, too.

The two-year, \$150,000 program budget allows for clubs in four middle and four high schools and impacts 345 students per year (690 over two years), and it includes staff, curriculum, over-

head, and five \$1,000 college scholarships per year.

To make a donation in support of this program, go to <https://lcdaok.com/donate/> or make your check payable to **LCDA** and mail to LCDA, 420 S. W. 10th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73109.





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The luncheon's "Vecinos" table sponsors included the following: Alva Roofing Company, American Fidelity Foundation, Arvest Bank, AT&T, BancFirst, Bank of Oklahoma, Community Health Centers of Oklahoma, Cox, Edwin D. Crane, Elite Health, Solutions Group, Epic Charter Schools, Fields & Futures, Francis Tuttle Technology Center, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 123, Greater OKC Chamber, Heartland, Home Creations, Kirkpatrick Bank, Mass Architects, Mercy, MetaFund, Metro Technology Centers, Michael Brooks P.C., OG&E, OKC Dodgers, OKC Housing Authority, OKC Thunder, Oklahoma City Firefighters Local 157, Oklahoma City Police Department Honor Guard, OSU/OKC & OSU Division of Institutional Diversity, Rose State College, Santa Fe South Corporation, Shaw Financial Services, Simmons Bank, Spartan Energy Services, Supermercados Morelos, Tango P.R., TFCU, The Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health, Tyler Media, YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City.

"Amigos" financial support was received from Bank of America, Greater OKC Chamber, KOCO Channel 5, Mabrey Bank, Mid-America Christian University, Moore-Norman Technology Center, Oklahoma City University, and Wheeler District.



**Damaris Summer, Janys Esparza**



**Feliz Romero**



**OKC Fire Department Members**



**Michael Byrnes, OKC Dodgers**



**Miriam Campos, Deysi & Alvaro Macario, Dr. Raúl Font**





***LCDA recognizes with gratitude the following donors who contributed during the prior fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2022.***

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