



LATINAS UNIDAS

Supporting Latina Women
Apoyando a Mujeres Latinas



December 2011

Dear Friend and Supporter,

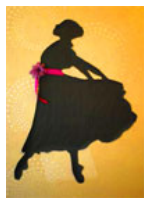
This has been another exciting year for Latinas Unidas! As this festive season comes to a close, allow me on behalf of our Latinas Unidas Board Members and myself to précis our finest moments and thank you for being part of our success.

We began our year with our traditional *Winter Café con Leche* in February which was graciously hosted by our friends at Frontier Corporation. Just like flowers bloom in the spring, so did we! In March, we had not just one but three successful events! The *Soy Unica Soy Latina Rally* for girls hosted by the University of Rochester was chaired by Iveth Reynolds. Our *Second Annual Iron Chef Competition* with spotlight celebrity Chef Daisy Martínez was sold out and possibly has outgrown the East High School space. Our *Latina Woman Scholarship Fundraiser* hosted by amigos, Louise Woerner and Augie Meléndez, raised over \$14,000 to help women return to school!

This has certainly been a year of increase! Our *Café con Leche* series coordinated by Board member, Rosemarie Gutiérrez, have been exceptional. Our most recent women's holiday networking event was held at Wegmans Corporate Headquarters and received an unprecedented response, resulting in having to close registration. We reached 75!

The *Latina Woman Scholarship Committee* was reorganized and welcomed new members, Joann Santos and Raquel Serrano. Latinas Unidas partnered with Young Entrepreneur Academy (YEA) and with the support from Tri-Mar Consulting, Pauline Clark and Caribbean Liquid Sugars provided a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving young Latina!

Our signature event, *Reconocimiento Awards*, held in the fall was another huge success thanks to our presenting sponsors Kodak, Wegmans and 13WHAM.



During the summer months and throughout the year, we maintained a connection with our communities – uniting, educating, linking resources, and supporting other organizations. Proudly, we promoted health and wellness fair for Latinas, organized Latina focused panels and roundtable sessions, participated in the Puerto Rican Parade, posted many community job openings on our website, mentored and supported the City of Rochester's Hispanic Heritage Month Planning Committee, attended the Women of Distinction Awards, with keynote speaker América Ferrera and supported the awardee Nydia Padilla-Rodríguez.

Members and friends -- none could have been done without your love and support and for that we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Personally, I'd like to thank six very special ladies who are the force behind our organization: Ruth Colón, Vice President; Lori Nolasco, Secretary (former board member 2011); Rosalie Rivera-Arzuaga, Treasurer; Peggy Martínez, At Large; Rosemarie Gutiérrez, At Large and Melissa Rosario-Bailey, At Large.

Happy Holidays to all! ¡Feliz Navidad!

Daisy

Daisy Rivera-Algarín
President, Latinas Unidas