



# Unidos 2021

**November 20, 2021**  
**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM**  
**Virtual Gala**

# **PROGRAM**

## **Welcome**

Alma Villegas, Co-Host  
Citlaly Ramírez, Co-Host

## **Bates Technical College**

'Thank you' video

## **Board of Directors President Remarks**

Bevin Taylor

## **Executive Director Remarks**

Virginia Herrera-Páramo

## **Keynote Speaker**

Lonnie Tristán Rentería

## **Castro Family Story**

Doris Castro

## **Live Auction**

## **One-time donation gifts**

## **Padrinos+Madrinas gifts**

## **Performance**

Mariachi Huenachi

## **Closing**

Para Los Niños builds a healthy community with a focus on Latino immigrants. Our mission is to foster the academic success of every Latino student through parent and community involvement. We support holistic, family-based educational opportunities and build lasting community networks.



**Doris Anabel Castro Reyes** from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, with a single mother to raise her, she went through hard times in life that taught her to be strong and resilient. First born of eight brothers and sisters ends up staying with her mother and helped to raise three of her younger siblings. Doris went to school up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade when she decided to work so she can help her siblings go to school. At 16, she changed her life completely and after living in different towns and working in different things from picking coffee to construction worker helper, to mention a few, she gets pregnant with her first baby. Doris was always looking for an opportunity to work regardless of her pregnancy. Later in life with a baby in hand and another one on the way she finds herself again in dire need of work to make ends meet for her family. Leaving her kids behind, she decides to come to the United States of America where she got political asylum and new opportunities to study and work so she could bring her kids. Today, Doris is happily married to Luis Paiz and have a beautiful family including three of her siblings and her nieces and nephews all under the same roof.

# Speakers and Guests

**Lonnie Tristán Rentería** (he/him/they/them) is both a therapist and



educator. His education and experience cover a broad range of subjects that inform his practice, from cultural theory, literature, narrative theory, positive and forensic psychology. He is a current member of the American Psychological Association, American Counseling Association, Washington Mental Health Counselors Association, and The Global Center for Forensic Research.

He was a full-time faculty at Seattle, University and later a full-time faculty member at the Art Institute of Seattle. He is trained in Narrative Therapy, Emotion-Focused Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Motivational Interviewing. Lonnie holds an MA in Forensic Psychology and Clinical Psychology. Lonnie has continued Puentes' founder Maria Jose Cote's vision of making accessible mental health interventions available to immigrant communities.



**Bevin Taylor** teaches English to speakers of other languages at Highline College. She thoroughly enjoys learning about other languages and cultures from the adults in her classes. In her role as an educator, Bevin's passion is to work with students to find their own path to achieving their goals in the classroom and beyond, and she brings this same passion to her work with Para Los Niños.

**Virginia Herrera-Páramo** from El Puerto de Veracruz, Mexico. Virginia has a



wealth of experience and skills in areas of education and health services. She has worked with communities in King and Pierce counties for the past 17 years. Her work expands a variety of roles and capacities, such as storyteller, peer literacy worker, doula, family advocate, community liaison, health promoter, breastfeeding consultant, and community health worker. Her emphasis has always been to promote cultural diversity in the King & Pierce County area.

**Alma Villegas** Originally from Tijuana, Mexico, Alma Villegas is a racial equity and



multicultural engagement consultant with over 25 years of experience in the nonprofit sector. In 2007, she worked with Community Schools Collaboration as their Parent Engagement Manager serving families from the Tukwila School District and Highline Public Schools. She has coordinated and designed several parent leaderships programs for the Latin community and other local immigrant and refugee populations. Alma holds a Bachelor's in Liberal Arts from San Diego State University and in addition to her consulting practice, she is a singer and bandleader of Alma y Azúcar, honoring the music of "La Reina"

Celia Cruz. Alma is excited to join the board of Para los Niños to support the academic success and leadership development of her beloved comunidad.

**Citlaly Ramírez** was raised in Seattle, Washington. She pursued a degree in



Business Technology at Western Washington University where she found a true passion for public speaking, entrepreneurship, and standing up for social justice causes. She also found a passion for mentoring other college students, who like her, were 1st generation. From being appointed to Student Trustee at WWU by the Governor of Washington State, obtaining an internship in the Governor's office, to public speaking at STEM conferences such as Geekwire, Citlaly considers herself an advocator for multiple causes and roots for spreading awareness in the public service, STEM & entrepreneurship sectors that

favor the Latino and women community. She is now focusing her passion for entrepreneurship by starting her own financial services business.

**Mariachi Huenachi, Wenatchee, WA** is a nationally recognized Award-



Winning group. They are the school's advanced Mariachi with their program having over 200 participating students. They have been featured nationally on FOX, ABC, NBC, PBS, Univision, Despierta América, and on the CBS Evening News. Mariachi Huenachi has earned a reputation as the best high school mariachi in the State of Washington, performing annually at dozens of events and festivals in and out of state. They've performed at

events such as Seattle Seahawks Games, Seattle Sounders Games, Orcas Island, Washington State Fair, Portland State University, Alaska, Washington D.C. and have performed at the State Capitol. Mariachi Huenachi has shared the stage with some of the best Mariachis in the world: Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán & Mariachi Sol de México de José Hernández. They have also opened for artists such as Joan Sebastián, Marco Antonio Solís, Sebastien de la Cruz, Beatriz Adriana, Gloria Trevi, Ramón Ayala, Garth Brooks, Lupillo Rivera, and Los Tigres Del Norte.

**Thank you to our long-time partners**



# Our Year in Review

Over the last year, Para Los Niños has continued to meet the deep needs of our community through the ongoing pandemic. Through so much challenge, our children have continued to grow, and the PLN community has continued to thrive because, through it all, we have remained UNIDOS.

On top of our regular programs that connect the entire Latin family with opportunities for learning and growth, including Aprendamos Juntos, Pre-K Play and Learn, Padres Unidos, and the Leadership Academy, Para Los Niños has come together with key community partners to meet the holistic needs of Latin children and families, including basic needs like masks, food, rental assistance, financial support, healthcare, and more. PLN leaders and supporters volunteered to continuously serve their community through this crisis. We provided technology access, computers, wifi access, and support for both children and parents to navigate the new digital world. And we continued to advocate for the leadership, visibility, and representation of Latin parents and children with local schools and decision-makers, engaging our families and friends in the census and voter engagement. Our new Parent Leadership Team is building community power so that our voices will be heard and heeded. We continue to have our seven programs and we launched our pilot program PLN Health Promotoras.

Together, the community that is the heart of Para Los Niños is a powerful and engaged force UNIDOS so that Latin children and families can thrive and have the academic and life success they so well deserve. Thank you for being a part of Para Los Niños. It is through your ongoing care, support, and contribution that our work is possible.  
Gracias.



Nora Sabalza designer of Sol y Luna





## **Moon Sponsor**







## **Air Sponsors**

**GROUP HEALTH**  
FOUNDATION

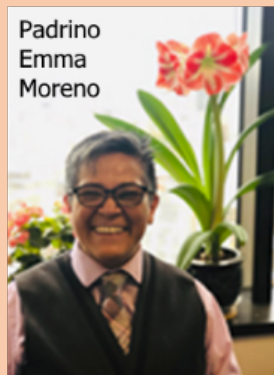


## Water Sponsors





## Earth Sponsors



Padrino  
Emma  
Moreno

# Padrinos and Madrinas

Special thanks to our Madrinas and Padrinos for their support to sustain our vibrant community.



Agnes Figueró



Alexander Finale



Alma Villegas



Beatriz Huerta



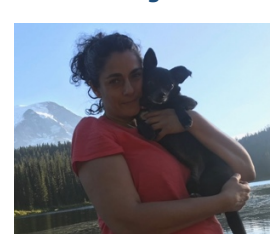
Bevin Taylor



Carolina Pérez



Cyndi Upthegrove



Deborah Massachi



Emma Moreno



Flor Alarcón Avendaño



Jan Noorda



Jasmine Sears



José Vázquez



Kristyn Joy



Martha Soria



Martha Soria Sears



Rebecca Saldaña



Roxana García



Shelley Hall

***Ana Sainz, Cynthia Wenner, Kelly Sutter, Melanie Chávez and Anonymous Padrinos and Madrinas.***

**Become a Padrino or Madrina today!**

**By giving a monthly donation and contribute to the sustainability of Para Los Niños' programs.**

**Your donation will empower Latino immigrant kids and their families through education, parent leadership and cultural heritage preservation.**

# Para Los Niños Board of Directors



**Bevin Taylor**  
President



**Jasmine Sears**  
Treasurer



**Alexander Finale**  
Secretary



**Alma Villegas**  
Member

## Para Los Niños Staff



**Virginia Herrera-Páramo**  
Executive Director



**Esther Kim**  
Operations Manager



**Lorena Merlín**  
Early Learning Specialist



**Verónica Huerta**  
Community Organizer



**Vanessa Delgado-Álvarez**  
Computer Lab Assistant



**Ángel Rocha**  
Resource Family Specialist

# Para Los Niños Extended Team



Gabiela González

Erica Refugio Martínez

Giselle Marín

Perla Ocampo

Lia Muñoz Cu

Benny Mendoza



Jeraldi González

Patricia Palomino

Anahi Toledo

Azucena Muñoz

Sandra Simarra

Santos Collazos

Concepción Saavedra



Mónica Salvatierra

Berenice Hernández

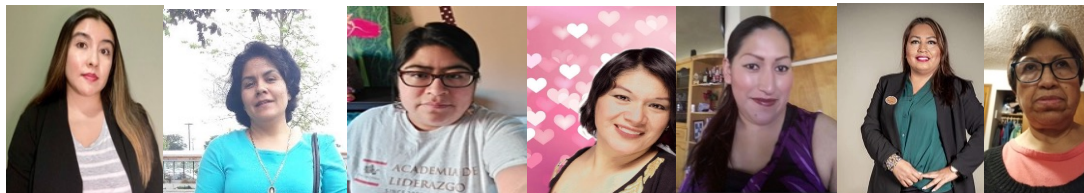
Sonya Yahyaoui

Emily Gaggia

Kristyn Joy

Marilú Acosta

Bridget Conant



Zuleyma González

Margarita Alonso

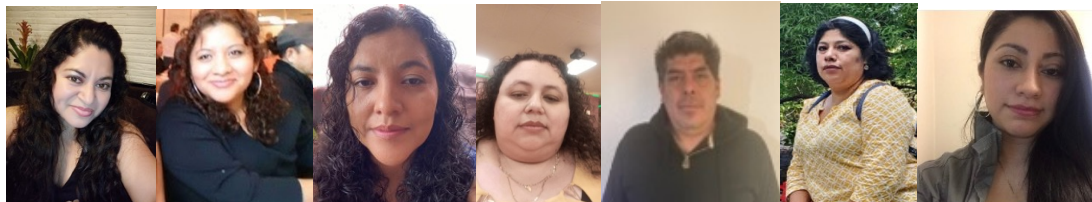
Gloria Ramírez Santiago

Reyna Gallegos

Patricia Celso-Moreno

Mirna Lucatero

Carmen Tosqui



Paula Zuñiga

Martha Vázquez

Rosalía Martínez Pérez

Martina Vargas

Gustavo A. Martínez

Sujey Quintero

Alicia Castillo

# Special Thanks for the emergency assistance in response to COVID-19



# Thanks to our Kids who participated in the home video

Cesar H. Osman S. Janeth C. Angel C. Angeli C. Lizbeth C.  
Ana S. Emma S. Diego F. Matheo P. Anderson H. Aylin C.  
Fatima G. Michelle D.

**Carlos Cuautle** our volunteer video editor

## “Thank You” to our auction Donors

Raquel García  
Teresa Martínez  
G&G Jewels  
Alma Villegas  
Alejandra Barroso  
Burién PCC  
Neighborhood Kitchen  
Friday Afternoon  
Natalia Arana-Herrera

Rebecca García  
Amarantha Sandys  
Sandra Simarra  
Friduchis Mexican Clothin  
Taqueria Cantina  
Bakery Nouveau  
Lestter Munguia  
Alex Finale  
Mariners  
Seahawks

Rafael Díaz  
Nam Hyoungh Kim  
Lunas Jewerly  
Martha Soria  
Roxana García  
Pimienta Bistro  
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Agnes Figueróa