

# LATINO AMERICAN COMMISSION

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**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Latino American Commission is to serve as a voice in the Nebraska State Government for Latino Americans/Latinos.

**Vision Statement:** The vision of the Latino American Commission is to empower the Latino Community through a pro-active approach to issues that affect their access to educational, political, economic and social opportunities in Nebraska.

## HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!

### LATINOS AND THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

On July 4th, the nation celebrates the Declaration of Independence. The War of Independence lasted for a grueling eight years and the outcome was many times in a delicate balance. Other nations came to our help. Most of our modern history focuses on the French help, but we must not forget the aid provided by Spain and Hispanic/Latino individuals.



**In 1780, King Carlos III** of Spain granted a credit of one million pounds to the American colonists. The Spanish towns of Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and others paid a special tax, levied by the Spanish Crown, which went to the Continental Congress to support the war effort.

In 1781, colonists sent a representative to seek funds in Cuba. The money was collected in five hours from the public treasury and from private citizens in Havana. It was this money that helped finance the Battle of Yorktown, the decisive battle of the Revolutionary War.

Four Thousand Spanish soldiers died as prisoners of war on English prison ships in New York Harbor after being captured while fighting for American independence. One of the greatest impacts of the Spanish navy was keeping the English in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico from reinforcing Cornwallis at Yorktown on October 1781.

Spain literally started another military front against the British. The Governor of Louisiana, **Count Bernardo de Galvez**,



**Spanish Troops at the Siege of Pensacola**

provided the army of General George Washington and General George Rogers Clarke with gunpowder, rifles, bullets, blankets, medicine and supplies. Once Spain entered the war on the side of the Americans in 1779, Galvez raised an army of Spanish and Cuban soldiers, Choctaw Indians and black former slaves. Galvez took Ft. Bute at Manchac in the Mississippi River. The Spanish also captured Baton Rouge and Natchez.



**Bernardo de Galvez**

The next year, Galvez captured Mobile and West Florida. Afterwards the Spanish gained control of the Mississippi River, thus, frustrating a British plan to encircle the American colonies. To see more about Hispanic/Latino contributions [Click here](#)



## A Message from the Executive Director

Hispanic/Latinos, a solution, not a problem.

In this Fourth of July, it is appropriate to remember that Hispanic/Latinos have fought in defense of the United States in every war waged, including the War of Independence.

Sixty men of Hispanic heritage have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Just to mention a fact, Latinos have received more Purple Heart medals than any other ethnic group (Source: [Hispanic Access Foundation](#))

David G. Farragut, the son of a Spaniard coined the phrase "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead". He was also the first admiral in the United States navy.

Hispanic/Latinos have always been willing to risk their life and shed their blood to defend our freedom and our way of life. Let us remember those Hispanic/Latinos that gave their life and are currently risking their life for us.

*En este cuatro de julio, es apropiado recordar que los hispanos han luchado en defensa de los Estados Unidos en cada guerra, incluyendo la guerra de la independencia.*

*Sesenta hombres de origen hispano se han concedido la medalla de Honor del Congreso. Solo para traer un hecho, los Latinos han recibido más medallas corazón púrpura que cualquier otro grupo étnico (fuente: [Hispanic Access Foundation](#))*

*David G. Farragut, hijo de un español acuñó la frase " Al diablo los torpedos, adelante a toda velocidad". Fue el primer almirante de la marina americana.*

*Los Hispanos siempre han estado dispuestos a arriesgar su vida y derramó su sangre para defender nuestra libertad y nuestra forma de vida. Recordemos a aquellos hispanos que dieron su vida y en la actualidad están arriesgando su vida por nosotros.*

### Latino American Commission Commissioners

ADRIAN SANCHEZ (Chair)

DEYANIRA "DEYA" SALGADO (Secretary)

ADOLFO "Danny" REYNAGA (Vice-Chair)

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### Anthony Bourdain's Quote

Despite our ridiculously hypocritical attitudes towards immigration, we demand that Mexicans cook a large percentage of the food we eat, grow the ingredients we need to make that food, clean our houses, mow our lawns, wash our dishes, and look after our children.

*A pesar de nuestras actitudes ridículamente hipócritas hacia la inmigración, exigimos que los mexicanos cocinen un gran porcentaje de los alimentos que ingerimos, cosechen los ingredientes que necesitamos para hacer los alimentos, limpien nuestras casas, corten el césped, laven nuestros platos y cuiden a nuestros hijos.*

President Trump has signed an executive order stopping the separation of children from their families at the border. More than two thousand children forcibly separated from their parents are scattered all over the country. Many in shelters as far Michigan or Maryland, many in foster homes with foster parents who do not speak their language. Many of their parents have no idea where their children have been taken. The administration released a plan to reunite migrant children with their parents when a parent in deportation proceedings also requests that their child be removed with them.



How many parents will voluntarily request that their child be sent back to a system where violence threatens their life, and poverty curtails their educational opportunity and brings hunger and disease?

In the midst of this humanitarian crisis, President Trump has proposed that “When somebody comes in, we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came.” This has brought considerable criticism because it states that the migrants should be denied due process.

Obviously, no one seems to know what to do about the thousands of asylum seekers knocking on our border. Extremist positions that range from mass deportation to open borders are unrealistic and a middle ground has proven impossible to find under our current polarized political system.

*El Presidente Trump ha firmado una orden ejecutiva para detener la separación de los niños de sus familias en la frontera. Más de 2 mil niños separados por la fuerza de sus padres, se encuentran dispersos por todo el país. Muchos en refugios tan lejanos como Michigan o Maryland, muchos en hogares de crianza con padres adoptivos que no hablan su idioma. Muchos de sus padres no tienen idea donde se han llevado a sus hijos. El gobierno lanzó un plan para reunir a los niños inmigrantes con sus padres cuando uno de los padres en proceso de deportación también pide que deporten a sus hijos con ellos.*

*¿Cuántos padres se solicitarán voluntariamente que su hijo sea devuelto a un sistema donde la violencia amenaza con su vida, y la pobreza restringe sus oportunidades educativas y trae hambre y enfermedades?*

*En medio de esta crisis humanitaria, el presidente Trump ha propuesto que "cuando alguien entra, debemos devolverlo inmediatamente, sin jueces o tribunales. Esto ha traído crítica considerable porque afirma que a los solicitantes de asilo se les debe negar el proceso legal debido.*

*Obviamente, nadie parece saber qué hacer con los miles de solicitantes de asilo en la frontera. Las posiciones extremistas que van desde la deportación masiva hasta abrir la frontera no son realistas y una solución intermedia ha sido imposible de encontrar dado el grado de polarización de nuestro sistema político.*

#### **Did you know?**

**About 8 million unauthorized workers have Jobs, building American buildings, picking up apples and grapes, and taking care of America babies while also paying American taxes. In 2015, they paid 23.6 Billion Dollars in income taxes for benefits that they cannot use such as Social Security and Medicare.**



## What to do after high School?

If you are about to enter your final year of High School, you are probably thinking about what to do once you graduate. The traditional step is to go to College. Education Quest offers some sound advice on getting ready to apply. Go to: [Ready for College?](#) for additional guidance. College is expensive, but you can find information on funding possibilities here: [College Funding](#) or scholarship information here: [Scholarships](#).

Perhaps you may want to consider a Community College. The Nebraska System of Community Colleges has a list of available programs here: [Community Colleges](#)

On the other hand, you might want to consider a vocational school such as you may find here: [Vocational Schools](#)

Another choice is a trade school and you may find listings here: [Trade Schools](#)

Even if you decide that a four-year college is not your road to pursue a higher education, many other choices can help you improve your education, your marketability and ultimately, your income.

It is always a good thing to reach out to your school counselor, to a mentor, or even to Education Quest to consider your options and possibilities.

Remember that volunteer work, community service and taking advanced placement courses all play a role when the admissions board is considering your application.

### ***¿Qué hacer después de la secundaria?***

*Si usted está a punto de entrar en su último año de escuela secundaria, probablemente está pensando en qué hacer una vez que se gradúe. El paso tradicional es ir a la Universidad. Education Quest ofrece algunos buenos consejos para prepararse para aplicar a la Universidad. Ver [Selecting a College](#) para orientación adicional.*

*La Universidad es cara, pero usted puede encontrar información sobre posibilidades de financiamiento aquí: [Financiamiento](#)*

*o como obtener una beca: [Becas](#)*

*Tal vez usted quiere considerar un colegio comunitario. El sistema de colegios comunitarios de Nebraska tiene una lista de programas disponibles aquí: [Colegios Comunitarios](#)*

### **Contact Information**

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Por otra parte, usted podría querer considerar una escuela vocacional, como usted puede encontrar aquí: [Escuelas Vocacionales](#)

Otra opción es una escuela de comercio y usted puede encontrar listados aquí: [Escuelas de Comercio](#)

Incluso si decide que una Universidad de cuatro años no es el camino para perseguir una educación más alta, muchas otras opciones pueden ayudarle a mejorar su educación, su comercialización y, en definitiva, sus ingresos.

Siempre es bueno hablar con su consejero escolar, un mentor o incluso a Education Quest para ayudarle en la búsqueda de una educación superior y a considerar sus opciones y posibilidades. Recuerde que el trabajo voluntario, servicio a la comunidad y tomar cursos de colocación avanzada desempeñan todos un papel importante cuando el Consejo de admisión está considerando su solicitud.

