Thank you to our 100 Founding Friends!

THANK YOU! 2nd Annual GALEO Power Breakfast Fundraiser a GREAT Success

Latino Organizations Unite Against HR256

Identifying Latino Voters: A Research Note

Washington Post: "Va. Police Back Off Immigration Enforcement"

HispanicBusiness.com: "Fresh Faces in Congress Stress Cooperation"

Governor Perdue Appoints New Chair of Latino Commission for a New Georgia

Atlanta Latino: "Efforts to turn the police into immigration agents"

AJC: "IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT: A toothless policy?"

GALEO Intern Highlight! Sherron Burgess from Georgia

Dear Jerry,

We would like to thank all of our GALEO sponsors and supporters for making our 2nd Annual GALEO Power Breakfast a great success! Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus enjoyed visiting Atlanta and looks forward to a return trip!

As part of the successes at our 2nd Annual Power Breakfast, we were extremely proud to have had attendance by several of our elected officials. Lt. Governor Mark Taylor had a message of inclusion for the Latino community. We had representatives from U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson, U.S. Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney, Secretary of State Cathy Cox, and Attorney General Thurbert Baker. Joining us were State Representative Michelle Henson and the Executive Director of the Georgia GOP and the Georgia Democratic Party Chairman.

In addition, we were proud to have had over 130+ supporters and sponsors attend our annual event! Special thank you goes to all of our sponsors:

- Lt. Governor's Circle: The Coca-Cola Company
- Senator's Circle: Delta Air Lines, Inc.
- Senator's Circle: La Mansion
- Amigo Sponsor: AARP-Georgia
- Amigo Sponsor: Atlanta Braves
- Amigo Sponsor: Briarcliff Pediatrics
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- Amigo Sponsor: Pfizer, Inc.
- Amigo Sponsor: Honorable Mark Taylor, Georgia Lt. Governor

The 2nd Annual GALEO Power Breakfast and our GALEO Membership help fund our ongoing programs and initiatives. Thank you for your continued support!

During the recent conference at the University of Georgia, GALEO was cited as a "Best Practice" organization for civic engagement in the Latino community. In addition, GALEO continues to make strides in further civic engagement through the implementation of LeadershipPlenty program across the state. GALEO is currently running this leadership development program in Atlanta, Smyrna, Dalton and Carrollton.

Furthermore, GALEO will begin a series of Town Hall meetings across the state to discuss Immigration:
Tech

Thank you to our Members!

Upcoming Events...

Rep. John Lewis's Festival Celebrates Multicultural Diversity of Atlanta

GALEO documents comments at a recent Christian Coalition Conference

HispanicBusiness.com: "Hispanics Talk Arizona Boycott"

HispanicBusiness.com: "Attorney General Gonzales Reaches Out"

NALEO: "Census Confirms Record Hispanic Turnout"

Atlanta Latino: "Local support for Kennedy-McCain legislation"

AJC: OUR OPINION: EDITORIAL: Seize effort to ease immigration load

Volunteers recruited to help catch illegal immigrants in East Tennessee

Christian Science Monitor: "Latino Politicians Gain Ground"

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Facts, Myths and Public Policy, a collaborative series of research reports with the Anti-Defamation League and the Hispanic Studies Center at Kennesaw State University. The reports will soon be made available online. Locations will be selected soon in collaboration with the Coalition for a New Georgia.

All of this could not be accomplished without the dedicated work of our interns, volunteers, and our GALEO members. Please help us to continue to share the stories of our immigrant population across the state by becoming a contributing member of GALEO. Please follow the links included in this newsletter on how you can make a difference and become involved in what we are doing! Join GALEO and be a part of a statewide pioneer as we unfold a stronger and more engaged Latino community in our state!

Thank you to our 100 Founding Friends!

AARP Georgia
Your email campaign (News from GALEO) has been sent to:

- Don Aldridge
- Alston & Bird LLP
- Altria Corporate Services, Inc.
- American Blaniching Company, Inc.
- AMERIGROUP Corporation
- Attaché Public Affairs, LLC
- Alberto Bazan
- Juan Blanco
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Briarcliff Pediatrics, PC
- Victoria Chacon
- Manuel Chavez & Susana Maria Chavez
- Cingular Wireless
- Hon. Terry Coleman (HD-118), Speaker, GA House of Representatives
- Brenda Foye Cornelius
- Covad Communications Company
- Delma De La Fuente
- Hon. Tony Del Campo, DeKalb County State Court Judge
- Rocio Del Milagro Woody
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- Teamsters Local Union 728
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- The Coca-Cola Company
- Hon. Michael Thurmond, Georgia Labor Commissioner
- Carmen Vega
- Felipe Yanes
- Hon. Sam Zamarripa, State Senator (SD-36)

Make a difference today!
Join GALEO now!

**Contribute and Support GALEO!**

Quick Links...
Other Links...

- Make a Tax Deductible Contribution to the GALEO Latino Community Development Fund
- About HR-256...
- Previous GALEO Newsletters

Quick Links...

- More NEWS & Press (Updated weekly)
- Christian Coalition Conference 2005 Report
- University of Georgia & GALEO "Identifying Latino Voters"
- GALEO Latino Community Development Fund

More NEWS...

- NALEO: LOS ANGELES' POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY CHANGING
- AJC, 5/17/05: "Real ID act reroutes drive for licenses"
- Washington Post: "Enter
McCain-Kennedy

• GALEO Applauds Bipartisan Immigration Reform Proposal

• THANK YOU! 2nd Annual GALEO Power Breakfast Fundraiser a GREAT Success

For pictures of our successful event, please follow this link.

Click here for more information on our past event...

• Latino Organizations Unite Against HR256

Honorable Glenn Richardson
Speaker, Georgia House of Representatives

Subject: Opposition to HR-256

Honorable Glenn Richardson:

We are writing to you as a collective of Latino organizations. With this letter, we express our opposition to HR-256 and other anti-immigrant legislation. Thank you for not making HR-256 a priority this legislative session; however, we are concerned about it for the 2006 legislative session. We do not condone illegal activity of any sort; however, as President Bush has recognized, our immigration system needs serious reform and repair. We strongly believe these types of state initiatives and proposals are based on rhetoric and are not in the best interests of our state or our nation.

Read More...

• Identifying Latino Voters: A Research Note

Joint Publication with the University of Georgia, Department of Political Science and GALEO

Objective. This research note assesses the effectiveness of two methods for enumerating Latino voters in Georgia: self-identification and surname matching. Methods. Lists comparing the number of registrants who self-identify as Latinos with the number of registrants who have Spanish surnames are compiled and cross-referenced using the 2004 statewide voter registration database. Results. Approximately 68% of self-identified Latinos have Spanish surnames. Conversely, of the registrants with Spanish surnames, only approximately 23% self-identified as Hispanic when registering to vote. Conclusions. Each approach misses some of the Latinos who are registered to vote in Georgia. A more complete enumeration emerges when the two approaches are combined—an option available in just five states.

Read more...

• Washington Post: "Va. Police Back Off Immigration Enforcement"

The Virginia State Police have backed off a plan that would have allowed some officers to make
immigration arrests, a prospect that had been fiercely opposed by immigrant rights advocates.

Read more...

- HispanicBusiness.com: “Fresh Faces in Congress Stress Cooperation”

WASHINGTON -- On one of the most divisive issues likely to come before the current Congress, two freshmen senators -- one a Republican, the other a Democrat -- are trying to hang together.

Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., says he’s "seriously considering" becoming a co-sponsor of a bipartisan immigration bill because fellow Hispanic Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colo., has endorsed it.

Read more...

- Governor Perdue Appoints New Chair of Latino Commission for a New Georgia

ATLANTA - Governor Sonny Perdue announced today the appointment of Mario Martinez as Chair of the Latino Commission for a New Georgia. Charles Asensio resigned from the Commission due to relocating out of the state.

Read more...

- Atlanta Latino: "Efforts to turn the police into immigration agents"

The right of state and local law enforcement officers to arrest, deport, or transfer undocumented immigrants across state lines to federal detention centers would be enhanced under an amendment by U.S. Rep. Charlie Norwood (District 9 of Georgia) of H.R. 1817, the Department of Homeland Security's Authorization Act for the 2006 Fiscal Year.

Read more...

- AJC: "IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT: A toothless policy?"

When Atlantans see illegal immigrants at a Home Depot parking lot or corner gas station looking for day labor jobs, they might be forgiven for railing at federal officials who don't arrest them.

It's not that the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement doesn't care, said Ken Smith, head of that office in Atlanta. But it does have to set priorities.

"Everything that we do, really, first and foremost is focused on national security and homeland protection," Smith said. "We don't look at anything anymore without looking at the vulnerabilities it reveals."

Read more...

- GALEO Intern Highlight! Sherron Burgess from Georgia Tech

Sherron Burgess is a master's student in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She serves on the International Affairs Graduate Organization Executive Board as the Vice-President and also on the board of the Black Graduate Student Association. Sherron attended Siena College for her undergraduate studies majoring in Spanish with a minor in Biology and Religious Studies. Sherron was born in North Carolina and raised in Mississippi, Tennessee and New York. In her spare time Sherron likes to play basketball and hang out with friends. She also enjoys traveling, having studied abroad in Costa Rica and Mexico.

Read More About GALEO’s 2005 Interns!
Thank you to our Members!

Senator’s Circle

Altria Corporate Services, Inc.
Klipatrick Stockton LLP
Professional Association of Georgia Educators

Legislator’s Circle

Juan Blanco
Hon. Tony Del Campo, DeKalb County State Court Judge
Lino H. Dominguez
Georgia Association of Educators
Robert Mendez, Indwell Corporation
Kool Smiles, P.C.
Felipe Yanes
Hon. Sam Zamarripa, State Senator (SD-36)

Become a GALEO Member to support our efforts!

Upcoming Events...

Save the Dates!

- SUNDAY, June 12th, NOON: Congressman John Lewis hosts a Multicultural Festival in Grant Park
- Thursday, June 16, 2005: Mexican Center Presents "A Day without a Mexican"
- Thursday, June 16, 2005: Hispanic Professional Social at Villa Christina
- Friday, July 8, 2005: Join GHNet with the Atlanta Braves
- Wednesday, July 13, 2005: GHNet's 4th Annual Art Exhibit
- GALEO Leadership Circle, Thursday, July 14th, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, "State Budget and Taxes 101" presented by the Georgia Policy & Budget Institute
- Dia de la Mujer Latina will be having several health fairs across the state.
- Saturday, September 17, 2005: GHNet 4th Annual Celebration and Awards Ceremony
- Fall Fundraiser, Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with GALEO, Thursday, Sept. 22, 2005
- GALEO Membership Holiday Reception, Thurs., Dec. 1, 2005

More info on EVENTS...

- Rep. John Lewis's Festival Celebrates Multicultural Diversity of Atlanta

Atlanta, Georgia - June 8, 2005 Congressman Lewis will host a multicultural festival called:

Atlanta: Celebrating our Beloved Community

in Grant Park Pavilion on

Sunday June 12 beginning at 12 noon.

Read more...

- GALEO documents comments at a recent Christian Coalition Conference
Atlanta, Georgia - March 23, 2005 As President Bush meets with Mexican President Vicente Fox and Canadian Prime Minister Martin, GALEO urges President Bush to move towards achieving comprehensive immigration reform. The U.S. Congress and President Bush should act soon and develop a solution to our failed immigration policy. The reform efforts should consider our national security, should encourage and enhance continued economic development and should protect the rights and dignity of immigrants.


Sample commentary: Mark Krikorian of the Center for Immigration Studies stated, "we round up all illegal aliens [put] them into boxcars and send them all back to Mexico in the middle of the night." Read more...

- HispanicBusiness.com: "Hispanics Talk Arizona Boycott"

Editorial comment: Do we want this to happen to Georgia? HR-256 and HB-911 represent similar legislation. We'll need your help! Get involved! Contact Jerry Gonzalez, jerry@galeo.org.

Salvador Reza, who is organizing the boycott in Phoenix, said he believes economic pressure can be brought on Arizona. Reza said a dozen out-of-state groups are ready to urge people to vacation and hold conventions elsewhere.

The focus for Reza is various anti-immigrant efforts in the Legislature.

It started, he said, with Proposition 200, which denies certain benefits to people here illegally. He acknowledged that it passed by a 12-point margin but said many Arizonans did not understand what it did.

And it continued with bills this session to expand the list of services off-limits to illegal entrants, to block cities from recognizing the identification card issued by the Mexican consulate, to make it illegal for cities to help finance labor centers that facilitate the hiring of undocumented workers and the move to require all official government actions to be conducted only in English. Read more...

- HispanicBusiness.com: "Attorney General Gonzales Reaches Out"

It's no secret that Alberto Gonzales' appointment as attorney general was a watershed moment for American Hispanics--and for a yearslong effort to woo more Latino voters to the Republican Party.

Though the political strategy is long-term, Gonzales has moved swiftly and energetically, more like a political candidate in a campaign than a Cabinet appointee, to reach to out to kindred ethnic audiences and showcase his status as the nation's first Latino attorney general. Read more...

- NALCEO: "Census Confirms Record Hispanic Turnout"

Los Angeles, CA - A record number of Latinos made their voices heard in Election 2004, with 7.6 million casting ballots, according to a preliminary analysis of a newly-released Census Bureau study conducted by the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALCEO) Educational Fund. The number of Latinos voters also increased dramatically from previous Presidential elections, and grew at a faster rate than the non-Latino vote. Between 1992 and 2004,
the number of Latino votes grew by 79% compared to 8% during the same period for non-Latinos. In Election 2004, Latinos comprised 6% of the nation's voters.

Read more...

- Atlanta Latino: "Local support for Kennedy-McCain legislation"

Politicians and community leaders expressed their support of the new bipartisan immigration reform bill at a breakfast hosted by the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials last week in Chamblee.

Read more...

- AJC: OUR OPINION: EDITORIAL: Seize effort to ease immigration load

The United States needs an immigration policy that secures its borders, re-establishes the rule of law and recognizes how dependent its own economy is on illegal immigrants who have crossed our borders in hopes of bettering their lives.

Getting agreement on the details of such a policy seems an impossible task in the current political climate. Virtually any proposed change in the existing immigration law is tagged with favoring businesses over individuals or catering to lawbreakers at the expense of law-abiding Americans.

Read more...

- Volunteers recruited to help catch illegal immigrants in East Tennessee

They work on the U.S border in Arizona, as part of a volunteer army called the Minutemen. Soon, the brigade will be in Tennessee with a mission of catching companies that hire illegal immigrants.

Read more...

- Christian Science Monitor: "Latino Politicians Gain Ground"

5/20/05-The election this week of Mexican-American Antonio Villaraigosa as mayor of Los Angeles is the latest exclamation point in a story of Hispanic political empowerment that has been unfolding steadily nationwide for more than three decades.

Read more...

- Advertise with GALEO!

From www.ajc.com: "Marketers out to woo Hispanics"
Eugene Robinson - Washington Post
Monday, May 9, 2005

Our aspirations drive the American consumer economy, so any change in the sacred process --- we see, we want, we dream, we buy --- has to have major implications. Such a change is just beginning to sink in: In today's America, more and more of our aspiring is in Spanish.

Read More...

Please ask us about placing an advertisement in this newsletter. We plan to have one ad per monthly newsletter. Please contact Jerry Gonzalez, GALEO Executive Director, 404.745.2580, or jerry@galeo.org for more information.
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Website :: http://www.galeo.org

Office :: 404.745.2580

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