

**LATINA
LEADERSHIP
NETWORK**

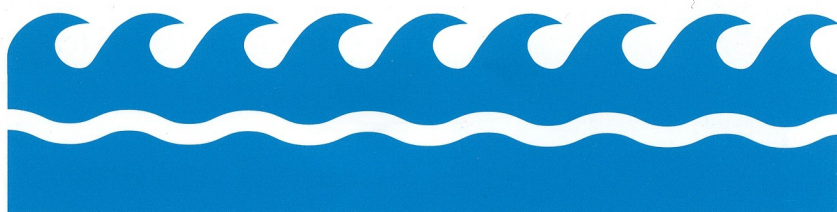
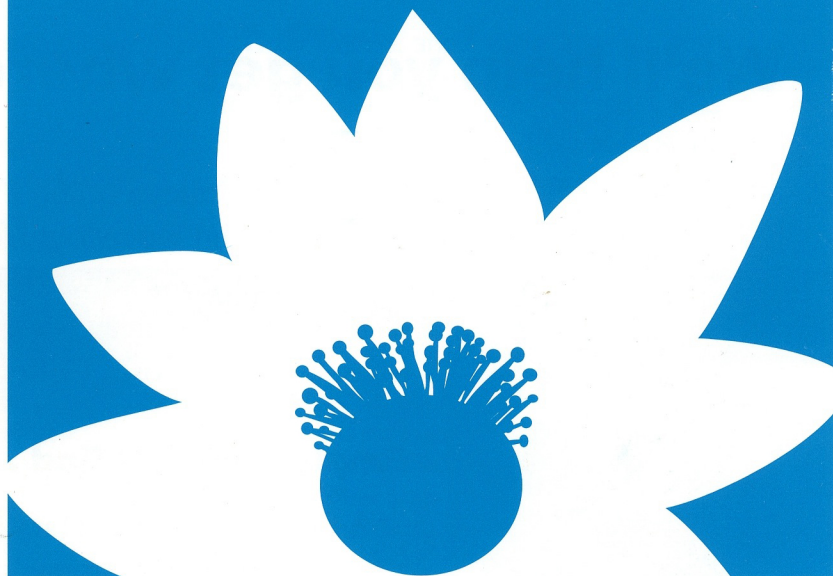
**16TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

**Hyatt Regency
Islandia**

**San Diego
California**

March 19-21, 2003

**ISLA DE MUJERES
LATINAS
FLOR DEL FUTURO**



**LATINA
LEADERSHIP NETWORK
OF THE CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

Dr. Maria C. Sheehan*College President*

Dr. Sheehan is an educator whose years of experience with community colleges spans over 25 years. She has been an instructor, a counselor, an administrator responsible for student services and instruction, and she has also been a Vice Chancellor of Human Resources for the South Orange County Community College District.

She served as president of Modesto Junior College for six years. Her major achievements were in the area of assessing student outcomes, leadership development and developing a positive campus climate.

Her community involvement has included roles on the local economic development and public agency boards. She is a founding member of the Latina Leadership Network. She currently serves as a member of the National Community College Hispanic Council. She is credited with having a central role in the revitalization of the Modesto Junior College Foundation. Major Foundation accomplishments include a three million dollar gift for the construction of a Student Center and the appearance of Mikhail Gorbachev in October 2000.

She is the daughter of parents from Panama who came to the United States as teens to find a better life. They both had dreams of higher education for their daughter.

Dr. Sheehan was appointed to the position of Superintendent/President of the Desert Community College District in July 2001.

Her academic degrees include a Bachelors and a Masters degree from California State University at Los Angeles, a Masters degree from California State University, Long Beach, and a Doctorate degree in Higher Education from Pepperdine University.

She has been married for 29 years and has one son, 21 years old.

**Gabriella Gutierrez***Teacher/Poet*

Gabriella is the daughter of migrant workers and grew up in Mexico and the United States. A poet since childhood, she published first in France at 18.

In 2000 she received her doctorate from Stanford University and joined the faculty at Seattle University. Her dissertation and other academic research focuses on Chicana subjectivity. She currently teaches language and literature in the Department of Foreign Languages at Seattle University. She has published poetry and academic works in various magazines and journals and is the winner of the prestigious Calabash Award in the Ethnic Arts for her work as a writer in Santa Cruz County in California. Here she conducted poetry workshops for women working in the local canneries, plant nurseries, and agricultural fields. Gabriella has held hundreds of poetry readings in schools, community organizations, universities, and for various national and international organizations. Her poetry has been taught in France, Spain, and Mexico and her first book, The Plastic Book a CD ROM, is on sale in select bookstores and on the web. Her second collection of poetry A Most Improbable Life will appear in bookstores in the Spring of 2003.

Poet Maude Meehan commented on Gabriella's work saying that "In her poetry, words and images are often presented in humorous vein. But even as we laugh, there is a subtle ache within. An ache of recognition of the painful truths of the human condition."

Gabriella will be reading from A Plastic Book, A Most Improbable Life and from her work in progress Malgré Tout, or In Spite of It All, an Autobiographical Chicana Novella.



Que Viva "La Rita", 2003 Conference Chair!

Que Viva "Jim Hottois", President of Palo Verde College!

Que Viva "Latinas de Palo Verde College!"

**LINDA VALLEJO***Nature and Spirit Artist*

Linda Vallejo, born in Los Angeles in 1951, is a practicing professional artist creating images, which describe the world from her indigenous training and understanding. Awards include Quien es Quien in U.S. Commerce, National Award, 1994; National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies, Distinguished Recognition, 1993; and Latinas Making History Award, Comisión Femenil de Los Angeles, 1991.

Selected Exhibitions include "NATURE AND SPIRIT," Solo Exhibition, Latino Art Museum, Pomona, California 2002; "NATURE AND SPIRIT," solo Exhibition, Howell and Green Fine Art Gallery, Topanga, California 2002 "Dreams and Reality," University of Judaism, Marjorie and Herman Platt Gallery; "Los Cielos" One Woman Show, SPARC, Los Angeles, 2000; Armand Hammer Museum, Laguna Art Museum, Art Museum of South Texas, Anchorage Museum of History and Art, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Museum of Modern Art New York, San Antonio Museum, Mexico City Modern Art Museum, and Galeria Las Americas; the Santa Monica Museum "East of the River" 2000; and The Carnegie Museum, Oxnard California, which acquired four sculptures for its permanent collection. Her portfolios express her dedication to healthy ecosystem and humanity's intrinsic connection to nature.

Major Publications and Media include Contemporary Chicana and Chicano Art, Bilingual Press, Hispanic Research Center, Arizona State University; Los Angeles Times Artist Review, October 2000; Art Business News, Southwest Art, Saludos Hispanos, Hispanic Business Magazine, "Strong Hearts, Inspired Minds," Rowanbeny Books, Los Angeles Times, Latin Style Magazine, PBS "The History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement," 1996. Guest Lectureships and Teaching Positions include Los Angeles County Museum of Art (1992-1993-1994), Los Angeles; Museum of Contemporary Art (1991-1992-1993), Fresno Metropolitan Art Museum; California State University, Long Beach Art Department; University of California, Irvine, Art Department; and Santa Monica City College.

**ROSARIO MARIN***U.S. Treasurer*

Rosario Marin is the first foreign-born treasurer ever in the history of the United States and the highest-ranking Latina in the Bush administration.

She came to the United States when she was 14 years old in 1972 and is the daughter of a factory worker and seamstress. Marin put herself through college, graduating from California State University, Los Angeles and later from the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government.

She has an electric background having served as a councilwoman of Huntington Park, California, and then serving as the city's Mayor. Marin also worked in community relations in the California Governor's office. She has been honored for her commitment to people with disabilities, including receiving the prestigious Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Prize in 1995.

ELSA SEVILLA*Journalist*

Elsa Sevilla has had a distinguished career as a journalist since she graduated from college. For the past 12 years she has been with KGTV San Diego's Channel 10 News.

Ms. Sevilla is married to her husband of 10 years, Guillermo Sevilla, a photographer at the station where the two work together on occasion.

She has also worked for "Good Morning America," "World News Tonight," "ABC-Los Angeles," "America's Most Wanted," "The History Channel," Telemundo, Chile, Televisa-Tijuana, Latina Builders Association, and many other agencies.

Ms. Sevilla was born in Tijuana, Mexico, to parents who were born in Phoenix, Arizona and El Paso, Texas. After living in Mexico for several years, the family decided to move back to the United States and made San Diego their home 32 years ago.

Ms. Sevilla attended James Madison High School, Southwestern College, and ultimately San Diego State University. She enjoyed two internships, one at KNSD 7-39 and the second at C-SPAN in Washington, D.C.

In her spare time, Ms. Sevilla continuously volunteers to speak at area high schools and college campuses to encourage students to continue their studies and focus on a career. Ms. Sevilla also sits on the San Diego MANA Board and volunteers with Girl Scouts of America; the San Diego Blood Bank; Access, Inc., a teen foster agency; and other organizations.

