



PRESS RELEASE

HOPE Leadership Institute alumna Nury Martinez makes history as first Latina to serve as Los Angeles City Council President

LOS ANGELES, CA, DECEMBER 3, 2019 — Today, Los Angeles City Councilwoman Nury Martinez was voted by her council peers to serve as the Los Angeles City Council President. She is the second woman, and first Latina, elected to occupy this role.

Martinez is a graduate of the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality - HOPE Leadership Institute class of 2000, which trains and prepares Latinas to take on vital leadership roles at all levels and in all sectors.

Martinez, the daughter of Mexican immigrants, grew up in Pacoima and was elected to the council in 2013. She will become the first woman elected president since Pat Russell in 1983.

Alumnae of 22 year-old HOPE Leadership Institute (HLI) have gone on serve in public office, or on statewide boards and commissions. HLI alumnae make history on a near daily basis as the first women or the first Latinas to serve in these leadership roles. Just today, HLI class of 2013 alumna Gabriela Plascencia also made history as she was first Latina sworn in to serve on the Riverside City Council.

The HLI has created a pipeline of Latina leadership in California, committed to improving political and economic parity for all communities. The HLI has an alumnae base of nearly 600 Latinas who represent all major regions of California and cross-cut professional sectors.

The HLI is first and only statewide leadership program specifically designed for professional Latinas in California, training them in vital leadership and advocacy skills and enabling them to create fundamental change within their local neighborhoods and across California.

About Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE)

HOPE® is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that has focused on empowering our communities through advocacy, Latina leadership training, and increasing knowledge on the contributions Latinas have made to advance the status of women for the past 30 years. To date, HOPE's innovative programming has served 56,000 Latinas statewide and touched the lives of several thousand more. For more information visit www.latinas.org.

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