

## Noche de Estrellas 2024

### HONOREES



**Nicole Quiroga**

#### **Award for Women Leaders in Business and Culture**

**Nicole Quiroga**, a native of Washington D.C., is the President and CEO of the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In this position, Ms. Quiroga provides strategic direction, vision, and management for the programs and personnel of the Chamber to promote and strengthen the economic growth and development of the region's Hispanic business community. Her expertise in strategic planning, program management, nonprofit operations, finance, and fundraising plays a vital role in fostering the continued success of GWHCC members, partners, and sponsors. Her deep understanding of Hispanic market trends and multi-cultural communication allows her to assist regional organizations develop business models that invest in culturally sensitive branding and outreach efforts that effectively serve and connect to the Hispanic super-consumer.

She is deeply passionate about educating and empowering Washington DC's Latino community and is continuously forging strategic partnerships with community organizations to ensure that Hispanic families get access to the critical information and resources they need. Ms. Quiroga is frequently invited to speak on topics such as: understanding and harnessing the power of Hispanics, developing culturally relevant outreach campaigns, and attracting and retaining Hispanic professionals.

Prior to the Chamber, Ms. Quiroga was the General Manager of Telemundo Washington DC and Telemundo Richmond, VA. Nicole has been a Board Member of The Harvard Journal of Hispanic Policy, The Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Greater Washington, Holy Cross Hospital, the Latino Student Fund and the Girl Scouts of the National Capital Area.

Nicole is a graduate of the Executive Leadership Program at Harvard Kennedy School, Leadership Greater Washington, the National Hispanic Leadership Institute, and the Emerging Leaders Institute. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from George Mason University.



**José Carrasquillo**  
**Abel López Award in Latino Arts**

**José Carrasquillo** is a theatre practitioner and educator. Recent directing credits include *A Christmas Carol* at Ford's Theatre, the world premiere of Ben Benne's *In His Hands* at Mosaic Theatre Company, Lynn Nottage's *Mlima's Tale* at 1<sup>st</sup> Stage, and *Flash Acts: Untranslatable* –an international collaboration with Forum for Cultural Engagement.

As a theatre educator, José has taught, lectured, or directed at American University, Julliard School of Drama, National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts, Interlochen, University of Washington (UW), University of Ohio in Athens, Cornish College for the Arts, UMD at College Park, and Catholic University of America. Mr. Carrasquillo is the proud recipient of a Mary Goldwater Theatre Lobby Award for his direction of *The Maids* at (WSC) Avant-Bard and the 2020 Helen Hayes (Hayes Category) Award for his direction of *The Brothers Size* at 1<sup>st</sup> Stage.

He has directed at most performing art venues in the region including the Kennedy Center, Studio Theatre, Round House Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, Theater J, GALA Hispanic Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Mosaic Theatre, Forum Theatre, Signature Theatre, (WSC) – Avant Bard, and Teatro de la Luna.

José is a steering committee member of Latinx Theatre Commons, a member of SDC, and serves in an advisory capacity to Theatre Washington. He is the Director of Artistic Programming at Ford's Theatre, where he will be directing *Mister Lincoln* to open the 2024-25 season.