



NEWS RELEASE



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NALEO to Bring Together Nation's Three Latino U.S. HUD Secretaries for First Time in History at Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala in D.C.

U.S. Secretaries Julián Castro and Mel Martinez will provide remarks as Former U.S. HUD Secretary Henry G. Cisneros receives NALEO honor on March 15, 2016

Washington, D.C. – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) today announced that it will bring together the nation's three Latino U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretaries, Julián Castro, Mel Martinez and Henry G. Cisneros, for the first time in history at the organization's annual *NALEO Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala* in Washington D.C. on March 15, 2016.

Both U.S. Secretaries Julián Castro and Mel Martinez will provide remarks as U.S. Secretary Henry G. Cisneros is presented with the Edward R. Roybal Award for Outstanding Public Service during the Gala.

The Edward R. Roybal Award for Outstanding Public Service is presented annually to individuals who have distinguished themselves as devoted public servants to the nation and the Latino community. The award pays tribute to the organization's founder and President Emeritus, the late Congressman Edward R. Roybal.

NALEO's 2016 awardee, Secretary Henry G. Cisneros, receives this prestigious honor as the organization prepares to celebrate its 40th anniversary. One of the original members of NALEO, Cisneros has paved the way for future Latino leaders and demonstrated extraordinary leadership in his efforts to increase opportunities for Latinos in Texas and nationwide. In his role as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, he was credited with initiating the revitalization of many of the nation's public housing developments and with formulating policies which contributed to achieving the nation's highest ever homeownership rate.

"Secretary Cisneros' efforts to improve the quality of life for the Latino community, through his work as a public servant and businessman, exemplify NALEO's mission and the legacy of the late Congressman Roybal," said Michele Martinez, NALEO President and City of Santa Ana Councilmember. "NALEO is pleased to bring together the nation's Latino U.S. HUD Secretaries for the first time in history as we celebrate our organization's 40th anniversary by honoring a

distinguished Latino public servant who has played a critical role in NALEO's past and whose work on behalf of the American people upholds the values of our great nation."

Prior to his Cabinet position, Secretary Cisneros served four terms as one of the first Latino mayors of a major U.S. city in his hometown of San Antonio. He was first elected to a two-year term in 1981. As mayor, Secretary Cisneros worked to rebuild the city's economic base, recruited convention business, attracted high tech industries, increased the level of tourism, and worked to bring more jobs to San Antonio. Before his tenure as mayor, Secretary Cisneros was elected to three two-year terms on the city council, on which he served from 1975 to 1981.

Secretary Cisneros served as an infantry officer in the United States Army. He holds his Bachelor of Arts and a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Texas A&M University and was awarded a second Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. He studied Urban Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and holds a Doctorate in Public Administration from George Washington University.

NALEO is pleased to recognize the generous support of Force Multiplier Solutions, Inc., which will serve as the Chair of the 2016 *NALEO Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala*. For more information about the event, please visit our [website](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Additional Details:

NALEO Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ET

Marriott Marquis Hotel - Independence Ballroom (Meeting Level 4)

901 Massachusetts Ave NW

Washington, DC 20001

This event is open to media. Advance registration is required. To register, please contact Paula Valle Castanon at pvalle@naleo.org or Amanda Bosquez at abosquez@naleo.org.

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About NALEO

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the non-partisan leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,100 Latino elected and appointed officials.