

WHAT'S NEW? • LO ÚLTIMO

- HECFAA has welcomed its newest member: Gabriela Cardozo is the first HECFAA intern and will be with us until September. She is looking at foundations and partners to help us with potential grants. She is also assisting the HECFAA Board with a communication needs-assessment to better serve our members.
- Thanks to OIG's support, one HECFAA representative was able to participate in the 85th LULAC National Convention during July, 8-12. Featured speakers included important Latino renowned figures such as OPM Director, Katherine Archuleta, Jennifer Lopez and First Lady, Michelle Obama.
- The Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) cordially invited HECFAA to participate in speed-mentoring for talented young Latinos, hosted by the Youth Leadership Institute on July, 31st.
- The HECFAA Board is participating in the Virtual Student Foreign Service project, which will allow HECFAA to complete additional projects in the upcoming months. Stay tuned!
- Our HECFAA Vice Presidents sent out their first letter to overseas members listing accomplishments of the first 100 days of the new HECFAA Board. If you missed the letter, you can find it [here](#).
- Would you like to see the official numbers for the US Department of State's workforce and promotions? The Department's 2013 statistics on diversity are posted [here](#)



HECFAA KUDOS AND IN THE NEWS • PRIMICIAS

- Congratulations to Frances Colón for becoming the Acting Adviser on Science and Technology to the Secretary of State.

Are you a HECFAA member or know of a HECFAA member that received an award/recognition? Let us know (vizcardolazoeg@state.gov) and we will spread the word!

HECFAA's PROFILES • NUESTRA GENTE

Meet Saul:



Saul Leyva is a Country Desk Officer in the Bureau of Consular Affairs Overseas Citizens Services Office of Children's Issues (CA/OCS/CI). For the past five years he has been working to protect American citizens overseas by collaborating with foreign authorities to safely return home children who have been victims of international parental child abductions. About his office, Saul says, "I work for one of the best directorates not only in

the whole CA Bureau but also Agency wide."

Because of his unique skills, he has served on six different Department-wide crisis response task forces focusing on Consular assistance to American citizens. From the Haiti Earthquake Task force in 2010, Japan earthquake task force in 2011 to the Philippines typhoon response in December 2013. He has also had the opportunity to serve different U.S missions,

providing Consular assistance through temporary duty assignments. He has served the Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2011, U.S Embassy in Lima, Peru, and most recently in 2014 at the U.S Embassy Kingston Jamaica.

He is the recipient of numerous Department awards and is grateful for the opportunity to work in Consular Affairs. “CA is always striving to make a difference, and through their leadership tenants, the Bureau has enabled me to realize incomparable experiences both professionally and personally.”

Get to know your HECFAA colleagues!

HECFAA members are serving all over the world. Ever wonder who they are, where they live, or what they’re up to? This is your chance to get the scoop! If you know a HECFAA member with a hidden talent, inspiring story, and/or extraordinary job nominate them for “HECFAA Profiles.”

Send your nomination to Mary Vargas at vargasme@state.gov and your colleagues will be featured in our HECFAA’s newsletter

WHAT’S HAPPENING? • QUÉ HAY?



Check out our [Events Calendar](#) to find out about upcoming HECFAA or other cool events related to Hispanics and/or professional development.

- ✚ On **August, 10**: we will have our first HECFAA Summer Potluck BBQ. Everyone is invited. Don’t miss out! Don’t forget to bring your dish and let us know what you are contributing on our [HECFAA SharePoint site](#).
- ✚ On **October, 10**: Marc Anthony’s concert at the Patriot Center at 8 pm. HECFAA has tickets for \$74pp on a first-come, first-served basis. Seats location: Section 109 Row Z. For more information, contact our social activities chairs (NelsonAJ1@state.gov and TorresRL@state.gov)

Know of an event worth sharing with the HECFAA membership?
E-mail the relevant event information, including a POC and date/time to
our social activities chairs (NelsonAJ1@state.gov and TorresRL@state.gov)

GET INVOLVED!

New! This year we will be launching the HECFAA mentorship program and we need volunteers to serve on the committee! Have you been a mentor or looked for one? Then your insights will be extremely valuable to this committee. If you would like to be part of the team that creates and implements this exciting initiative, we welcome your participation. Please contact Yvonne Gonzales at GonzalesYM@state.gov.

Want to become more involved? Join one of our committees! It's easy, just contact one of our committee chairs listed below. You will have a lot of fun and feel good about giving back--guaranteed!

Social Activities - Jana Nelson and Lymari Torres Reyes

Professional Development and Speakers - Carmen Cantor and Frances Colón

Public Relations - Jennifer Archibeque and E. Giovanni Vizcardo L.

Hispanic Heritage Month - Gilberto "Beto" TorresVela and Heather Wild

Membership - Virginia Hernandez

Domestic Outreach – Patricia Aguilo, Juliana Moreno, Silvana Rodriguez and Mary Vargas

Check us out on [SharePoint](#) ! [Follow us](#)



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