



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez to Receive 2018 Edward R. Roybal Award for Outstanding Public Service

Velázquez will be honored for her contributions to the Latino community at the NALEO Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala on March 13, 2018 in Washington D.C.

Washington, D.C. – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) announced today that Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez will be presented with the 2018 Edward R. Roybal Award for Outstanding Public Service during the organization’s annual [Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala](#) in Washington, D.C. on March 13, 2018.

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.

“Rep. Velázquez is a true Latina trailblazer who has broken barriers throughout her accomplished career in Congress,” stated Pauline Medrano, NALEO President and Dallas County Treasurer. “By using her public office as a vehicle to fight for meaningful equal economic opportunity for the working class and poor and to improve the day-to-day lives of her constituents, Latinos and all Americans, Rep. Velázquez has exemplified the true spirit of service demonstrated by the late Congressman Roybal.”

The first Puerto Rican woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez is currently serving her thirteenth term in Congress. Born in Yabucoa, Puerto Rico - a small town of sugar-cane fields – Rep. Velázquez has made history several times during her tenure in Congress. Most recently, in 2006, she was named Chairwoman of the House Small Business Committee, making her the first Latina to chair a full Congressional committee.

As the top Democrat on the House Small Business Committee, which oversees federal programs and contracts totaling \$200 billion annually, Rep. Velázquez has been a vocal advocate of American small business and entrepreneurship. She has established numerous small business legislative priorities, encompassing the areas of tax, regulations, access to capital, federal contracting opportunities, trade, technology, health care and pension reform, among others.

NALEO is pleased to also recognize the support of its corporate partner, Comcast NBCUniversal Telemundo, which will serve as the Chair of the 2018 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:

2018 NALEO Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

7:00 – 8:30 pm ET

JW Marriott Washington D.C.

1331 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington D.C. 20004

The 2018 NALEO Edward R. Roybal Legacy Gala is open to media. Advance registration is required. Please contact Amanda Bosquez at abosquez@naleo.org or Daniel Ramirez at dramirez@naleo.org to register.

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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.