

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL HISPANIC UNIVERSITY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the "National Hispanic University on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

I have the pleasure of representing one of the most diverse cities in America and in California—San Jose. Along with the rich diversity of the people, culture and traditions in San Jose is a firm commitment to higher education. This commitment stems not only from our mantle of being the "Capital of Silicon Valley," but also from a strong tradition of excellence in collegiate education, as demonstrated through our world renowned University of California and California State University systems.

The National Hispanic University was established in 1981 to serve the needs of Hispanics, women, other minorities and other learners. Although programs through the UC and CSU systems attempted to address the burgeoning numbers of minorities who needed higher education, and many Latinos benefited from these initiatives in the 1970s and 1980s, the gap between Hispanics and others continued to widen.

The National Hispanic University, NHU, was founded after extensive research about the success rate and high quality of education provided by historically black colleges and universities that graduated (and still do today) almost half of the African American professionals in American society. NHU believed that a small private independent college could make a difference in the graduation of Hispanic professionals in education, technology, and business.

Dr. B. Roberto Cruz, the founding President of NHU and its academic visionary for 22 years, paved the pathway of success for NHU. Although he is no longer with us, his spirit and firm commitment is the driving force behind the establishment of the University and his spirit remains today in the halls and classrooms of NHU.

NHU's current president, Dr. David P. Lopez, along with the Board of Trustees and Advisors, are continuing in Dr. Cruz's spirit to ensure that the University remains committed to its standards of excellence and the core values of its foundation that made it the fine institution of higher education it is today.

It is my distinct pleasure to congratulate the National Hispanic University on its 25th anniversary and wish it many more years of continued success.

CELEBRATING THE MCA'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Museum of Contemporary Art, MCA, in Chicago. Since opening its doors in October 1967, the MCA has served as a home and artistic outlet for modern day artists.

Through photography, performance, painting, sculptures, and video and film, the Museum houses modern visionaries' ideas and passions. Visitors to the museum are able to witness artistic interpretations of the cultural, social, and historical highlights of our time. As one of the largest modern art museums in the country, the MCA is a place where the public can be informed, educated, and stimulated by the creative process.

Its opening in 1967 gave Chicago and its visitors access to artwork from modern day artists. Dan Flavin, an American minimalist, and Mexican artist Frida Kahlo displayed their first solo exhibitions at the MCA. The MCA was also the first American museum to exhibit the work of Spanish artist Antoni Tàpies. The museum also houses the works of American artist Jeff Koons and American photographer Robert Mapplethorpe and many others. Recently, the MCA has exhibited the works of photographer Wolfgang Tillmans, American minimalist Richard Tuttle, and Chicago-based cartoonist Chris Ware.

In 2006 the MCA received the Arts Presenters/MetLife Foundation Award for Excellence in Arts Access. The MCA's commitment to providing access to art for people with disabilities has established the MCA as an institution which embraces artistic talent from all people.

Madam Speaker, I am thrilled to celebrate the 40th anniversary of this institution. I would like to thank the Museum of Contemporary Art for their contributions to Chicago's outstanding cultural tradition, and I congratulate every one of the artists and employees that has made their 40 years possible. I look forward to more decades of outstanding exhibits at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2007

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, September 18, 2007 and Wednesday, October 3, 2007, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall votes 873 and 935.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 935, and "nay" on rollcall vote 873.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2007

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to comment on Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Thousands of women everyday face a daunting fight against this disease. This is a time to recognize this modern-day medical challenge affecting so many women and their families.

The medical professionals who assist women through early detection or treatment should be highly commended this month. This is why it is important to congratulate medical partners such as Knapp Medical Center in Weslaco, TX in my Congressional District.

This Thursday, October 4, Knapp will conduct a Women's Health Fair as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is through community awareness of prevention, screening, treatment, and support that women are beating breast cancer every year. Every woman is at risk and this Health Fair is particularly valuable in the existing health care climate when projections estimate that over 40,000 women will die from breast cancer this year. Events such as this during Breast Cancer Awareness Month are essential.

The increasing success stories of 2 million women survivors every year show that these events empower women to find out how to care for themselves and, by extension, their families and communities through utilizing cancer screening methods effectively. Knapp Medical Center is helping the predominantly Hispanic community in my South Texas region with this Health Fair since late detection among Hispanic women is a serious concern. Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among Hispanic women and the second most commonly diagnosed among this group of women.

I commend Knapp Medical Center and the American Cancer Society and their exceptional doctors, nurses, and staff for hosting this free public educational event. I urge every American to learn about breast cancer and encourage their mothers, daughters, and wives to get checked and become informed about the best preventive practices. Finally, during this important month I applaud all the efforts of America's doctors and researchers who greatly contribute to the success stories of our courageous women who live with and beat breast cancer.