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# **TODAY'S PROGRAM**

## 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

# Reception

**Book Signing & Family Hub Marketplace** 

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

**Lunch & Program** 

Master of Ceremonies Alfonso Gutiérrez Telemundo Chicago

Edgar Ramirez
President and CEO, Chicago Commons

Lea Taylor Philanthropy Award Northern Trust

> Graham Taylor Award Iris Witkowsky

### **BREAK FOR LUNCH**

Chicago Commons Video

Keynote Speaker Sonia Manzano

Donald L. Duster Leadership Award Priscilla Bahena

**Mission Moment** 

Closing

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Family Hub Marketplace & Book Signing



Alfonso Gutiérrez is a news anchor for Telemundo Chicago's weekday newscast at 10 p.m. and Consumer Investigative Reporter for Telemundo Chicago Responde. As part of the Telemundo Chicago news team, Gutiérrez reports breaking news and news of upmost importance for the Chicago area's Spanish-speaking viewers.

Before joining Telemundo Chicago, Gutiérrez worked as a news reporter and anchor for morning news breaks for Telemundo 25 Denver / KDEN in 2006. He also worked as a producer and host of a radio show for 89.3 FM-WHFR in Detroit, Michigan, the only Spanish radio program in the local area.

Gutiérrez has received various Emmy Awards for his journalistic work in a series of special investigations for Telemundo Chicago. In the same way, he has had the honor of receiving more than 20 Emmy nominations for his work in front of and behind the camera. Gutiérrez started his college career at Henry Ford College in Michigan and obtained his bachelor's degree in film and video production at Columbia College Chicago.

Born in San Ignacio Cerro Gordo, Jalisco, Mexico, Gutiérrez advocates for the success of young students, inspiring them to become future leaders.

For many years, Gutiérrez has supported The Necahual Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help children and adolescents that find themselves in vulnerable situations and need education and cultural resources.



When you think of Sonia Manzano, you immediately think of children and television. Her most recent accomplishment was creating a children's program, Alma's Way, for PBS KIDs. It has won two Imagen Awards for Best Youth Programming, a 2022 Emmy nomination for Outstanding Writing for a Preschool Animated Program, and a 2023 NAACP nomination for an Image Award.

But what Ms. Manzano is best known for is performing the role of "Maria" on Sesame Street for 44 seasons, where her work affected the lives of millions of parents and children and garnered her two Emmy Award nominations in addition to the National Academy of Arts and Science's Lifetime

Achievement Daytime Emmy in 2016. As a writer for the show, she took home 15 Emmys. Ms. Manzano also recently received the 2022 Beacon Award from PBS.

Ms. Manzano is also the author of four picture books and three young adult novels. Her most recent Scholastic novel, Coming Up Cuban, set in 1959, follows the lives of four children who represent different intersections of race and class during the Cuban Revolution.

Stop by Los Amigos Bookstore's table today to pick up one or more of Ms. Manzano's books, and join us before and after the luncheon program for a book signing!

# **LUNCH MENU**

### FIRST COURSE

# **Berry Kale Salad**

With goat cheese crumble, craisin, fresh berries, radicchio and a honey-lemon vinaigrette

### **Artisan Rolls**

### **SECOND COURSE**

### **Seared Chicken Breast**

With parmesan polenta cake, roasted baby carrots, and chicken jus

### **VEGETARIAN OPTION**

## **Parmesan Crusted Cauliflower**

With farro pilaf, sweet potato puree, roasted baby vegetables and a white balsamic vinaigrette

## **DESSERT**

House-made Macaron Artisan Bonbon Mini Raspberry Tart

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Tea



# **HONOREES**

# LEA TAYLOR PHILANTHROPY AWARD NORTHERN TRUST

Northern Trust has a long history of giving back to the communities the company serves through financial support, volunteer efforts, and supply drives for causes that help to build stronger families and communities and positively shape the future. For over 70 years, Northern Trust has provided financial support for social service programs critical to underresourced communities in Chicago while also lending time, talent, and treasure through volunteer projects.

Since 1954, Northern Trust has supported numerous Chicago Commons events, providing much needed general operating revenue for the organization. Additionally, Northern Trust employees have served on our board of directors and/or auxiliary board spanning seven decades, providing expert insight and leadership. Current representation includes Mary Timmons and Ofelia Potter on the board of directors and Chelsea Mills-Buckner, Sam Lincoln, and Clint Mefford on the Chicago Commons Leaders Council. Historical board representation includes Nancy Wieboldt; John B. Snyder; Norman T. Rossen; and Barbara Smith, wife of Solomon B. Smith.



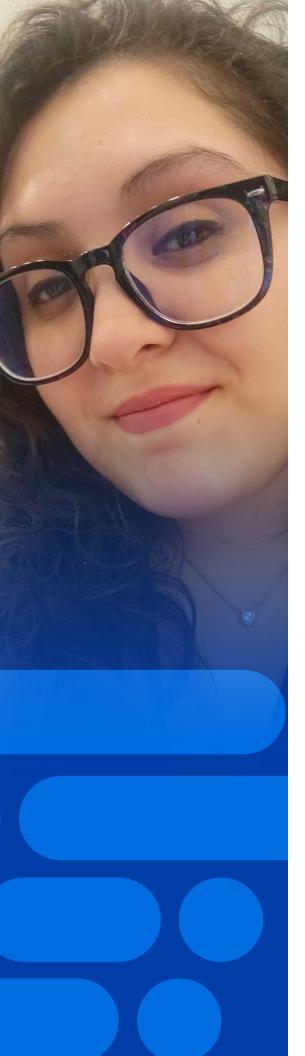
# **HONOREES**

# GRAHAM TAYLOR AWARD IRIS S. WITKOWSKY

Iris Witkowsky has been a dedicated supporter of Chicago Commons since 1977 when she was recruited by a dear friend to serve on the board of directors. For nearly 50 years, Iris has been contributing her leadership and insights to advance the organization's mission.

Although she retired from the board in the early '00s, Iris consistently supports Chicago Commons through philanthropic contributions, always keeping us on our toes with thoughtful inquiries about the successes and challenges of both our participants and our staff. In addition to Chicago Commons, Iris' civic involvement has also included the International Visitors Center, the Know Your Chicago committee, the University of Chicago Women's Board, and the Chicago Architecture Foundation.

Through her leadership, advocacy, and generosity, Iris has played a pivotal role in supporting Chicago Commons' efforts to empower children, families, and seniors in Chicago's communities.



# **HONOREES**

# DONALD L. DUSTER LEADERSHIP AWARD PRISCILLA BAHENA

Priscilla Bahena has transformed adversity into achievement with the support of Chicago Commons. Overcoming a difficult childhood in the foster care system, she was determined to create a better future for her own children. All three of her kids have attended the Paulo Freire Family Center, where they received high-quality early education preparing them for kindergarten and lifelong learning.

Through family workers and Chicago Commons' Family Hub, Priscilla found the support she needed to pursue higher education while raising her family. With financial aid and guidance, she earned her associate degree and is now completing her bachelor's in social work at Northeastern Illinois University—soon to begin her master's in social work at NEIU in the fall. As an AmeriCorps volunteer and future family worker, Priscilla is turning her lived experience into a source of strength for others, with the goal of empowering families with the resources and assistance needed for them to thrive.



The Family Hub provides wraparound support in the areas of health & wellness, financial empowerment, self-advocacy, and workforce development. These services are available for families with children, seniors, or adults with disabilities enrolled in our programs. This support also includes resources for budding entrepreneurs. Today, we are proud to feature 14 small businesses. Visit the Family Hub Marketplace to shop for yourself or your mom (don't forget Mother's Day!) to be entered into a raffle for a tour of NBC5/Telemundo Chicago studios, Lakeshore Learning gift basket, Wines for Humanity in-home wine tasting, or \$50 Visa gift card.

### **Vendors include:**

- Antojitos Elly
- DDIMIZ RANDOMSY
- Dulces Moños y Diademas
- Fabuliz Treats
- Icoffee and Candles
- Jenny B's Pottery
- Limes Smiles for Miles Inc.
- · Los Agaves Soy Candles, LLC
- Marietta's Designs
- Micuna Peruvian Cuisine Catering
- Quetzal Trinkets and Gems
- Rebel Style
- Star Farm Chicago
- WORK26 SKATESHOP



# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

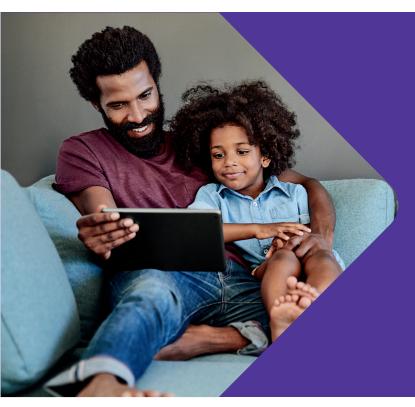
Chicago Commons provides high-quality early childhood education through its proven Reggio Emilia curriculum. It enables children to discover their world and learn by leaning on their strengths, igniting long-term learning.

### **FAMILY HUB**

Chicago Commons' Family
Hub serves as a bridge
to career pathways and
wraparound services to help
sustain family stability and
empower them to break the
cycle of poverty, stimulating
generational transformation.
A thriving family nurtures
thriving children.

## **SENIOR SERVICES**

Chicago Commons provides life-invigorating senior services that celebrate life to the fullest while affording dignity and respect to seniors and vulnerable adults. Our services enable families to continue working and seniors to remain at home.



# Help us connect more families with affordable home internet

Spread the word about Internet Essentials

# internet essentials

Internet Essentials from Xfinity is the nation's largest and most comprehensive private-sector internet adoption program, providing reliable, high-speed home internet to qualifying households for a low monthly price.

Households may qualify for Internet Essentials if they participate in programs like SNAP/EBT, Medicaid, or the National School Lunch Program.

By sharing in our mission, we can work together to empower even more individuals with the lifechanging tools and resources they need to succeed in a digital world. Please share information about Internet Essentials with your community.

# Internet Essentials offers customers:



Internet service with speeds of **up to 75/10 Mbps** for \$14.95/month with Internet Essentials OR speeds of **up to 100/20 Mbps** for \$29.95/month with Internet Essentials Plus



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Visit **partner.InternetEssentials.com** to order complimentary marketing materials to help spread the word.





# **Education** is empowerment

When more people have access to the education they need, our communities get stronger. That's why U.S. Bank provides financial education resources and practical tools that help you learn how to save, invest and manage your money smarter. Education builds knowledge, confidence and a brighter future for all of us.

U.S. Bank is proud to support Chicago Commons.











# **Empowering Communities**

ComEd is proud to support Chicago Commons and the work you've done for over 130 years to empower individuals, families, and communities to overcome barriers and thrive across generations.

Congratulations on All Your Success

INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES WHERE WE LIVE & WORK

Northern Trust is proud to support Chicago Commons Association.



See all the ways we can support you.



David Albright
Global Head of Client Development &
Co-Regional Managing Director, East Region, GFO
312-557-1900

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We design, build, manage, and maintain infrastructure systems that connect people and improve their lives.

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# Love of the Game

We are passionate about building, brand, and our team.



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We adapt to new markets, new roles, and new challenges.



# Persistent Problem Solvers

We identify the problems. own the problems, and solve the problems.









AARP Illinois is a proud supporter Chicago Commons and their endeavors.

https://states.aarp.org/illinois/

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# Let's change our communities for the better

We are committed to lending a helping hand for the causes that are important to our community. That's why CIBC is proud to support Chicago Commons.

Learn more about us at cibc.com/US

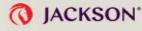


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1850-2025

Proud of our history, focused on the future.

# Thank You!

James Neaylon, III Suzanne M. Neaylon

Longtime friends of Chicago Commons





Thank you, Chicago Commons, for making our community a better place to call home for 130 years and counting.



# Making a meaningful difference

PwC is proud to support Chicago Commons as part of our commitment to making a meaningful difference in the world.

www.pwc.com

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**ADVISORY & ACCOUNTING** 







"Underlying this word 'Commons' and its many derivatives is the idea of sharing what each can be to all and what all can be to each, what belongs to no person or class exclusively, but to everyone, to the whole people of the community or nation.

. . . . . . . . . .

Here we hoped that friendship, neighborship, and fellowcitizenship might form the personal bonds of that social democracy, which alone can save our body politic from being cloven under any economic stress and strain or by classconscious conflict."

## **Graham Taylor**

Chicago Commons through Forty Years, 1934

**Chicago Commons** 

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