

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE HISPANIC GALA ANNOUNCES “EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR” AWARDEE

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Rockville, MD - The Steering Committee of the Montgomery County Executive Hispanic Gala (MCEHG) announces the second of three awards to be presented during the gala celebration on **September 18, 2014** to take place at **The Fillmore Silver Spring**.

**Montgomery County Public Schools High School Teacher Paula Peró** will be the recipient of the “*Educator of the Year*” Award. Ms. Peró is the World Languages Department Resource Teacher at Albert Einstein High School in Kensington, Maryland.

“Ms. Peró is a passionate, dedicated, hands-on educator that transcends the classroom walls and brings valuable learning experiences to her students. She is also an advocate placing her students in internships and mentorship opportunities. We are proud of how she champions on behalf of Latino students.” said Claudia Canales, Event Chair of the 2014 MCEHG.

Ms. Peró has been a member of the Albert Einstein High School staff for the past fourteen years. She implements innovative teaching strategies, uses technology and primary sources from museums to enhance student learning. She has planned trips to Europe, provided cooking lessons, and arranged visits to plays and museums. For the past 7 years she has taken students to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Policy Conference.

Ms Peró also volunteers her time as the sponsor of the award winning competitive Latin Dance Team “Titanes Salseros”. The goal of the team is to celebrate culture, community, and academic excellence. The team’s hard work and success under Ms. Peró’s direction has been highlighted in the Bethesda Magazine March. She has also volunteered to co-organize the grassroots MCPS Latin Dance Competition with other MCPS teachers.

She was raised in Argentina and Colombia, and has been living in Maryland for the past 24 years. She graduated from Walter Johnson High School in 1995 and attended University of Maryland College Park and Johns Hopkins University.

The “*Advocate of the Year*” Award will be presented to Dr. Wallace D. Loh, President, University of Maryland.

The Montgomery County Executive Hispanic Gala is a volunteer-run event committed to assisting Hispanic youth achieve a high level of education. Funds raised support the ***Maryland Hispanic Achievement Scholarship Program*** which provides financial assistance to Hispanic students enrolled in Maryland higher learning institutions.

The Executive’s Hispanic Gala will serve to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month in Montgomery County and the State of Maryland.

To become an event Sponsor, Donate or to Purchase Tickets, visit: [www.MontgomeryHispanicGala.org](http://www.MontgomeryHispanicGala.org)

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**WHERE :**

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