

Smithsonian Latino Center Announces New Member to National Board

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Washington, DC -The Smithsonian Latino Center announces Dorene C. Dominguez as the newest member to its national board of directors. The Smithsonian National Latino Board is the Latino Center's volunteer advisory arm. Its members are philanthropists, corporate leaders and accomplished individuals who bring experience, geographical balance, diverse backgrounds and culture expertise to the Latino Center. They advise the director on programming and external relations, assist with outreach and advocacy, and identify and secure financial support.

Dorene C. Dominguez succeeded her late father, H. Frank Dominguez in 2004, to become the Chairman, President and CEO of the Vanir Group of Companies, Inc. She oversees operations in 18 offices throughout the United States, Dubai and Saudi Arabia. The Vanir Companies are engaged in program, project and construction management, real estate and solar energy development and new construction, and employ a growing staff of more than 300 talented executives, architects, engineers, construction managers, developers, contractors and support staff. Vanir Construction Management, Inc. is the leading provider of education facilities (K-12) in the State of California. In 2012, Vanir Energy, LLC was awarded the "Best Solar Project in North America," by Inter-Solar for the W.G. White, Jr. Family YMCA in North Carolina. Ms. Dominguez is an active member of various community improvement projects, boards and commissions. She founded the Vanir Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit that partners with schools to bring innovative programs to children in underserved communities. She currently serves as Chairman of the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame and is a member of the Advisory Council of the Lusk Center for Real Estate at the University of Southern California. She is also on the Board of Directors of New America Alliance and PRIDE Industries. She previously served as a member of the Board of Directors of American River Bank, SUCCEED Academy, National Council of La Raza, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE). She has held public service appointments on the Los Angeles Planning Commission, California State Board of Geology and Geophysics, and the California State Medical Board.

The Smithsonian Latino Center ensures that Latino contributions to arts, sciences and the humanities are highlighted, understood and advanced through the development and support of public programs, scholarly research, museum collections and educational opportunities at the Smithsonian Institution and its affiliated organizations across the United States. For more information, visit www.latino.si.edu.

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