



RELEASE

Monday, July 21, 2008
For Immediate Release

SABEResPODER Hosts Inaugural Leadership Awards Gala Dinner to Honor Leaders and Raise Funds for UCLA Migrant Students

*Keynote Address by former US Secretary of HUD, **Henry G. Cisneros**;
Remarks by state Senator **Gilbert Cedillo** and **Lionel Sosa**; Presentations to
Congresswoman **Hilda Solis**, the **Institute for Mexicans Abroad**, and
La Opinión publisher, **Monica Lozano***

Los Angeles, CA – SABEResPODER is hosting an inaugural leadership awards gala dinner tonight at the Luxe Sunset hotel honoring outstanding leadership in the Latino community and raising funds for a UCLA summer program for high school students who are sons and daughters of California migrant workers. Continuing in his lifelong commitment to public service and support of young people becoming part of the future of America, CityView Executive Chairman, **Henry G. Cisneros**, will provide the keynote address and also present the Congressional Leadership Award to Rep. **Hilda Solis**.

"It is exciting to be a part of SABEResPODER's inaugural gala this evening," said **Cisneros**. "The money raised goes to a critically-important cause and I am particularly honored to present a proven advocate for the community, Congresswoman Hilda Solis, with the SEP's 1st Congressional Leadership Award for her unwavering commitment and consistent leadership on issues facing the Latino community."

State Senator **Gil Cedillo** will present the Education Leadership Award to the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME)—to be accepted by its Executive Director, **Carlos Gonzalez Gutierrez**—and *La Opinión* publisher, **Monica Lozano**, will be presented with the Distinguished Business Leader Award by **Lionel Sosa** of Sosa & Sosa Consultation & Design. Both **Raúl P. Lomelí-Azoubel**, Chairman SABEResPODER and its President and CEO, **Amir Hemmat**, will offer welcome remarks.

"The spectacular attendance tonight is truly reflective of the importance of the issue we are supporting here this evening: our future Latino leaders of America," said **Hemmat**. "As we pause to pay tribute to our leaders in the fields of elected office, education and business, so we also remind ourselves to support those just beginning that journey. The rapid growth of SABEResPODER and its successful hosting of the UCLA summer program could not have been possible without the support of people like Secretary Henry Cisneros, Senator Gil Cedillo and so many others."

One hundred high students from all over California with parents who are migrant workers are enrolled in the UCLA summer program that combines advice about education with leadership training and motivational speakers. Now in its 8th year, every student has received a full scholarship for the program funded by the U.S. Migrant Education



program and hosted by SABEResPODER. One of strongest advocates for immigrant rights and upward mobility for young Latinos is UCLA alumnus and California DREAM Act author, state Senator **Gil Cedillo**.

“I have been a longtime supporter of SABEResPODER and commend them on the work they do,” said **Cedillo**. “Now, more than ever, we need to support opportunities for young people to follow their dreams and become a stronger thread in the fabric of America. I am humbled to be here this evening and grateful for the chance to recognize IME for their work in education.”

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SABEResPODER works in trusted and easy accessible community locations, providing comprehensive and practical educational solutions for Spanish-dominant Latinos in the United States. Through its needs-based educational campaigns on topics such as financial literacy, healthcare, healthy living, and education, SABEResPODER creates and distributes in-language and in-culture educational guides and video programming that assist Spanish-speaking consumers become more informed, confident, and active participants in American society.

For more information, visit www.saberespoder.org, or call 310.826.3900.