



THE PETE C. GARCIA
VICTORIA
FOUNDATION



Advocates

For Education

Awards

Wednesday April 10, 2024



Chair's Message

Ms. Suzie Moreno

Chair, Board of Directors
The Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation

Good morning,

On behalf of the Pete C. Garcia, Victoria Foundation, it is indeed an honor to welcome you to our annual Advocates for Education Awards Reception, honoring our leaders representing various educational institutions. These hardworking and creative award recipients have demonstrated sustained leadership in assisting our students and supporting academic programs that have directly impacted their educational journey. As each recipient is introduced, you will hear a compelling story about their journey and will discover why they are being honored. Our educational systems develop a foundational perspective that enhances the abilities of each student to learn and thrive. A solid educational foundation kindles the flame of curiosity and helps awaken the abilities to question, and to reason. Our advocates have made a life-time commitment to prepare our Arizona students to journey into the world equipped to succeed.

As we celebrate the work of these incredible educational leaders and their many accomplishments, we have to stop and ponder the future of education in Arizona and beyond. Until we, as a society, truly invest in our education systems, organizations like the Pete C. Garcia, Victoria Foundation will work to provide funding support for our youth to learn and thrive.

Our wish is to provide education for all, enabling our youth to learn and apply their knowledge to the challenging work environments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzie Moreno". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Suzie Moreno
Board Chair



President's Message

Dr. Loui Olivas

President
The Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation

Dear Friends:

The Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation is proud to celebrate our Advocates for Education Awards, 14th Anniversary. Every April, we gather to recognize and honor “difference makers” working tirelessly within the education community, who thrive to improve the academic talents of our students. Our Founding President, Pete C. Garcia, clearly understood that when you have individuals who know how to push agendas and support educational programs that benefit our community, our students flourish. Each of this year’s award recipients exemplify through their arduous work and accomplishments, why we continue with our Advocates for Education Awards Reception.

Our foundation believes in the importance of providing our students with educational support systems that will yield high returns on our scholarship investments, benefiting all communities. Our major goal is empowering our students through their educational attainments, thereby positioning these students to flourish.

Partnering with educational institutions and our community sponsors, we have provided 1,603 dollar-for dollar scholarship matches that enhances our students’ ability to complete their college degree. To-date, thanks to our sponsors and partners, we have invested \$1.6 million dollars in our scholarship program. This significant investment propels our students’ academic futures and encourages us to continue our fundraising efforts.

Thank you for being with us today to recognize, honor and support our 2024 Advocates for Education Award recipients.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loui Olivas". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Dr. Loui Olivas
President



Board of Directors

Suzie Moreno

Chair, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation,
Manager, National Sales, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona

Raul Aguirre

President, REA Media Group

Dr. Loui Olivas

President, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria
Foundation Professor Emeritus,
Arizona State University

Francessca Cruz-Ortega

Senior Accountant and Loan
Administrator, Evergreen Devco Inc.

Jim Shee

President,
Natural Air Technologies

Dr. Steven R. Gonzales

Chancellor,
Maricopa Community Colleges.

Lourdes Sierra

Vice President, Director of Client &
Community Relations, Office of the
Regional President
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

Chuck Lotzar

Attorney at Law
Lotzar Law Firm

Charlene T. Vasquez

Chief of Staff
Arizona Theatre Company
Member, Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation
Board of Directors

Staff

Bertha Salas

Administrator

Jay Olivas

Multimedia



Program Agenda

Welcome

Ms. Suzie Moreno
*Manager, National Sales
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Chair, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria
Foundation Board of Directors*

Mr. Vince Yanez
*Senior Vice President
Community Engagement &
Strategic Partners
Helios Education Foundation*

Dr. Loui Olivas
*President
The Pete C. Victoria Foundation*

Awards Presentations

Presented by

Educational Diversity Award

Tim Brienza
*Superintendent
Yuma Union High School District*

Chuck Lotzar
*Lotzar Law firm, P.C.
Member, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria
Foundation Board of Directors*

Sustained Promoter / Benefactor of Education Award

Maria T. Echeveste
*Senior Vice President
Community Relations Manager II
Local Market Office
Bank of America*

Steven R. Gonzales
*Chancellor
Maricopa Community Colleges
Member, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria
Foundation Board of Directors*

Academic Achievement / Advancement Award

Karen Armknecht
*Vice President
Research & Evaluation
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.*

Charlene T. Vasquez
*Chief of Staff
Arizona Theatre Company
Member, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria
Foundation Board of Directors*

Excellence in Education Award

Mark A. Yslas
*Superintendent
Agua Fria High School District*

Francesca Cruz-Ortega
*Controller
Human Service Campus
Member, The Pete C. Garcia Victoria
Foundation Board of Directors*

Excellence in Youth Education Award

Efrain Casillas
*Coordinator of Music Programs
Tolleson Elementary School District*

Dr. Loui Olivas

Closing Remarks

Dr. Loui Olivas

Educational Diversity Award

Presented to

Tim Brienza

Superintendent
Yuma Union High School District



Tim Brienza is dedicated to helping shape the future of EVERY student within the vibrant educational landscape of Yuma Union High School District #70. As Superintendent, Tim brings a wealth of experience, passion, and commitment to his role overseeing the educational journey of more than 11,000 students across seven high schools. With a mission to ensure every EVERY student graduates college career and community prepared, Tim tirelessly champions innovation, equity, and excellence in education.

A proud alumnus of Marquette University, Tim embarked on his journey in education with a Bachelor's degree in History, laying the foundation for a career driven by a deep-seated passion for teaching and learning. Continuing his pursuit of educational excellence, Tim pursued a Master's Degree in Bilingual and Multicultural Education at NAU-Yuma in 2000, equipping himself with the skills and insights necessary to support the diverse needs of his students.

Over the course of the past 27 years, Tim's journey in education has been marked by a number of roles, from teacher to coach to administrator, each contributing to his comprehensive understanding of the

intricacies of the educational landscape within YUHSD.

Tim is proud to be part of a district that has achieved remarkable milestones, boasting a 90% graduation rate while maintaining a remarkably low 2.14% dropout rate. Tim's unwavering dedication to inclusivity is evidenced by the robust support provided to EVERY student in YUHSD, which includes more than 2,000 migrant students and encompasses 89% minority representation. Recognizing the importance of socioeconomic equity, Tim has been part of initiatives to support the community's most vulnerable, with 70% of students benefiting from free and reduced lunch programs.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Tim finds joy and fulfillment in his roles as a husband and father. Married to Patricia, a dedicated educator at Somerton Elementary School District, Tim shares his life and values with his two remarkable children, Carmela, a proud graduate of Arizona State University's nursing program, and Clemente, who is currently a senior at Kofa High School.



Sustained Promoter / Benefactor of Education Award

Presented to

Maria T. Echeveste

Senior Vice President
Community Relations Manager II
Local Market Office
Bank of America



As Community Relations Manager for Bank of America Phoenix, Maria Echeveste develops and executes the philanthropic and community initiatives addressing economic mobility and social progress across Metro Phoenix. With 30 years at Bank of America, Maria has led local teams across the southwest to develop strategic partnerships, sponsorships and volunteer engagement. Her previous roles have included Community Development Officer, Community Reinvestment Act Officer, co-leader for Bank of America's National Rural and Native American Initiative, and advisor for the bank's Employee Network Hispanic/Latino Organization for Leadership and Advancement (HOLA).

Since 2018, Maria has managed the Phoenix Market's Bank of America Charitable Foundation, investing nearly \$20 million in grants supporting collaborative work that advances racial equality and economic opportunity. This work has included leading Bank of America's Jobs Initiatives working with nonprofit and education partners including Maricopa Community College District and Arizona State University. This work centers around the bank's investment to Arizona State University's Educational Outreach & Student Services (EOSS) which created [LeverageAZ](#).

LeverageAZ has provided an opportunity to support the ASU EOSS's team, led by Dr. Sharon Smith and Vanessa Ruiz, to address education and workforce inequities in Arizona. LeverageAZ is a conduit pathway model connecting diverse local talent to postsecondary and career opportunities to meet the needs of the new Arizona economy. This program brings together industry, educational and nonprofit partners to create various pathways for talent development. Bank of America provides investment and talent to LeverageAZ, Maricopa Community College

District and other local nonprofit education and workforce development partners with programs in professional development, resume building, mentorship and financial literacy through Bank of America's Better Money Habits program. Maria is a champion leveraging local market data, research and voice from the community to drive collaborations that prepare the region's future workforce to make conscious decisions on their own careers.

Maria also serves on the Board of Directors for [Arizona Impact for Good](#), whose mission is to unite nonprofits and philanthropy to transform Arizona, and she is a member of Arizona Housing Coalition and Arizona Community Reinvestment Collaborative.

Another of her passions is mentorship, and Maria volunteers to help students in the Year Up program, as a Better Money Habits Champion and she is active in Bank of America's Employee Networks. She is a certified Six Sigma Green Belt, past Chair of Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) Phoenix, and alumni of Valley Leadership Class XXI. Maria is a graduate of Arizona State University with B.A. in Liberal Arts and received M.B.A. from University of Phoenix.

Maria and her husband, Craig Echeveste live in Gilbert, Arizona, where they raised their four daughters. Their daughters have all gone on to attend and graduate from the University of Southern California, Georgetown University, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, and George Washington University and now building their own careers in art, public health, early childhood education and human resources.



Academic Achievement / Advancement Award

Presented to

Karen Armknecht

Vice President
Research & Evaluation
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.



Ms. Karen Armknecht has devoted the past three decades to the field of research and evaluation, driven by a core belief that properly harnessed data and insights can lead to meaningful change. Ms. Armknecht approaches her work with intent and purpose, striving to amplify the often-unheard voices of clients and customers by meeting them “where they are” and understanding their needs within cultural contexts.

Her journey in the field began as a consultant for a major U.S. automotive manufacturer, where she conducted consumer sentiment polling across continents—from Latin America to Asia and the Middle East. This pivotal experience taught her that cultures are dynamic, evolving entities, shaping her approach to integrate culturally responsible evaluation practices throughout her career.

Next, at Salt River Project (SRP), a leading utility provider in Arizona, Karen spearheaded pioneering research that laid the groundwork for the organization’s first Hispanic marketing plan. This initiative not only delivered culturally relevant materials and programming to a growing Hispanic community but also earned SRP the American Marketing Association of Phoenix Marketer of the Year Award. Her outstanding voluntarism at SRP was recognized with the Karl F. Abel Employee Award.

Currently, as the Vice President of Research and Evaluation at Chicanos por la Causa Inc. (CPLC), Ms. Armknecht heads a talented and passionate team dedicated to conducting community-based research that gauges CPLC’s impact on the community it serves. Her leadership emphasizes the importance of listening to and amplifying client voices, leading to a profound understanding of their needs and highlighting the tangible differences CPLC’s programs make in their lives. Karen operates under the philosophy of being “data-driven with a heart,” ensuring the narrative of the

nonprofit’s work is both impactful and empathetic. A defining project under her leadership was the 2020 Burden of the Pandemic© study, a comprehensive COVID Dynamic Community Needs Assessment completed thanks to the 1,000+ CPLC clients who generously shared their voices. This pivotal research filled a critical gap in community-level data, offering insights into the pandemic’s impact on Latino communities and informing strategies to support them during such challenging times. The findings guided advocacy and programmatic solutions in healthcare, workforce development, and housing, while securing vital funding opportunities.

Karen’s continuous pursuit of growth is evident in her grateful acknowledgment of the grants and training opportunities that have expanded her department’s capacity, including a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation putting into practice a model to measure improved healthcare outcomes. Her participation in the NeighborWorks Tableau Fellowship significantly enhanced CPLC’s data visualization capabilities, allowing for more effective storytelling and client narrative articulation. To further these efforts, Karen’s role as a Tableau culture mentor for a 2024 NeighborWorks Tableau fellow underscores her commitment to nurturing future talent.

A proud alumna of the Scottsdale Leadership Class of 2008, Karen now contributes as the Board of Directors Chairwoman for the Grants Committee. Her academic background includes a Master of Business Administration, with honors, from Thunderbird School of Global Management and an Advanced Bachelor of Arts in Diplomacy and World Affairs from Occidental College. Originally from Allentown, Pennsylvania, Ms. Armknecht has made Arizona her home since 1993, where she raised her 24-year-old twins.



Excellence In Education Award

Presented to

Mark A. Yslas

Superintendent
Agua Fria High School District



Superintendent Mark A. Yslas is deeply rooted in Arizona, born and raised in the copper mining region of Hayden, Ariz., where he was raised by his parents, Peter and Lupe Yslas, alongside his sisters Debbie, Paula, and Laura. Family holds great significance for Yslas, who himself is a proud father to two sons, Mateo and Marcos.

Following his graduation from Northern Arizona University (NAU) Yslas embarked on a remarkable education career, spanning three decades in the pre-K to 12th grade education system. He began his career as a Jr. High teacher. His diverse career includes such roles as Principal of Tempe High School, Assistant Superintendent of the Coolidge Unified School District and eventually ascending to Superintendent of the Alhambra Elementary School District in Phoenix.

Currently, Yslas holds the prestigious position of Superintendent of the Agua Fria Union High School District, a position he has held since 2021, where he oversees a staff of more than 90, a student population of 10,000, and 5 schools in Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Avondale, and Buckeye, collectively referred to as the Southwest Valley.

A trailblazer in his field, Yslas made history as the first Latino Superintendent in both the Alhambra and Agua Fria School Districts, breaking barriers and inspiring future generations of educators. Known for his transformative leadership, he fosters a culture of continuous improvement that exists not only in academics but also in athletics and the arts.

His contributions have been recognized and celebrated, notably with the receipt of the Latino Advocacy Award from Valle Del Sol Profiles of Success in 2016. However, he remains humble, considering himself a product of his environment and acknowledging the pivotal role of Latino leaders who have paved the way for him and others. Names like Flores, Chavez, Gutierrez, Leyba, Moya, Diaz, Serrano, Lagunas, Guzman, Carrizosa, Verdugo, Scribner, Geston, Hernandez, Trujillo echo as pillars of inspiration in his journey.

Yslas is most proud of his impact on other educators, many of which have risen to positions of prominence within the education system. His commitment to nurturing and empowering future leaders has earned him the reputation of being a "rockstar maker," a testament to his dedication to the growth and success of others.

In reflection, Yslas remains deeply grateful for the support and mentorship he has received, acknowledging that his journey is indebted to the resilience and dedication of those who came before him. Without their influence, Yslas acknowledges that he would not be where he is today. In his own words, "Muchas gracias mi gente!" This sentiment underscores a heartfelt appreciation for the community and mentors who have played a pivotal role in his life and career.



Excellence In Youth Education Award

Presented to

Efrain Casillas

Coordinator of Music Programs
Tolleson Elementary School District



Efrain Casillas, Coordinator of Music Programs for Tolleson Elementary School District in Tolleson, has had a tremendous impact on his students. A public-school music teacher for 24 years, he is currently teaching both general and instrumental music at two schools in the Tolleson district. He graduated with a BA in Music Performance and Education degree from Western Connecticut State University in 1999. While wearing both a classroom teacher and Department Coordinator hat at TESD, he created the district's first Mariachi, Jazz, Marching, Concert and Latin Jazz bands. The Tolleson Elementary School Mariachi band has competed at the Tucson Mariachi International Conference and won 1st and 2nd place for the Choice Awards for 3 years in a row. They've also performed at Disneyland and in the Disneyland Parade. His Latin Jazz Band opened for Pete Escobedo and played alongside him. They have also participated in the Fiesta Bowl Parade for three consecutive years.

Casillas is an active member of the Arizona Music Education Association and a candidate for National Board Certification (NBCT). He has also been a presenter for the National Symposium of Multicultural Music at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in 2004. In 2015, Casillas was selected for TESD's Teacher of the Year and nominated for the Life Changer Award in 2017. He was selected to receive the Esperanza Award from Chicanos Por La Causa in 2018, and the Music Teachers of Excellence from the Country Music Foundation. His dedication as a music teacher also had him featured at the Kelly Clarkson Show in 2020. Casillas was selected as the 2024 Teacher of the Year for the state of Arizona by the Arizona Educational Foundation.





THE PETE C. GARCIA VICTORIA FOUNDATION

The Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation thanks our
Sponsors for their leadership and support.



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2010 - 2023 Recipients

2010 Award Recipients

Mr. Richard Boals
President/CEO, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Arizona
Recipient of the Educational Funder Award

Representative Olivia Cajero Bedford
State Representative for District 27
Recipient of the Education Advocate Award

Mr. David Gonzales
US Marshal – Arizona
Recipient of the Educational Success Award

Mr. Riccio Torrez and Mr. Raoul Torrez
Recipients, of the Role Models of Educational Success

2011 Award Recipients

Mrs. Dorothy Garcia
Administrative Director for St. Joseph's Medical Group
Recipient of the Role Model of Education Success Award

Dr. Rufus Glasper
Chancellor for Maricopa Community Colleges
Recipient of the Advocate for Education Award

Mr. Jesus Thomas Espinoza
President of La Raza Fund
Recipient of the Patron for Medical Education Facilities Award

Mr. Leo Valdez
Senior Vice President and Manager Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley and Company
Recipient of the Patron of Medical Projects Award

Dr. Ted Tong, Associate Dean,
University of Arizona School of Pharmacy
Recipient of the Advocate for Medicine Award

2012 Award Recipients

Mr. Tim Hogan
Executive Director
Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest
Recipient of the Legal Advocate for Education Award

Ms. Carmen de Novais Guerrero
Executive Director
Cultural Coalition
Recipient of the Patron for the Arts in Education Award

Mr. Cloves Campbell, Jr.
Publisher, Arizona Informant
Recipient of the Education Excellence in the Media Award

Dr. David Camacho
Associate Vice President of Diversity
Northern Arizona University
Recipient of the Advocate for Diversity Award

Ms. Tillie Arvizu
Vice President of CPLC Community Schools
Recipient of Education Success Award

2013 Award Recipients

Mr. Paul Ahern
Architect
Member of American Institute of Architects
Recipient of the Architect of Education Facilities Award

Mr. Alberto Esparza
President / CEO
Si Se Puede Foundation
Recipient of the Advocate for Excellence in Youth Education Award

Dr. Steven R. Helfgot
Vice Chancellor / President/CEO
Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation
Recipient of the Champion of Education Award

Dr. Sylvia Lee
Board Member
Pima Community College Board of Governors
Recipient of the Patron of Education Award

Mr. Rick DeGraw
Executive Vice President / Chief Administrative Officer
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

2014 Award Recipients

Ms. Tammy McLeod
Vice President
Energy Resource Management, Arizona Public Service
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Mr. Ray "Gumbi" Salazar
Musician
Retired, Department of Corrections
Recipient of the Patron for the Arts Award

Mr. Martin Samaniego
Glendale Elementary School Board Member
Recipient of the Advocate for Excellence in Education Award

Dr. Octaviana Valenzuela Trujillo
Professor of Applied Indigenous Studies
Northern Arizona University
Recipient of the Role Model of Educational Accomplishments Award

Dr. Macario Saldate IV
Member, District 3
Arizona House of Representatives
Recipient of the Advocate for Diversity Award

2015 Award Recipients

Mr. Gary and Mrs. Melissa Trujillo
Founders
Be a Leader Foundation
Recipients of the Advocate for Excellence in Youth Education Award

Ms. Susan Glawe
Vice President of Community Relations
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Dr. David Garcia
Associate Professor
Arizona State University
Recipient of the Champion of Education Award

Mr. Armando Ruiz
Founder
Espiritu Community Development Corporation
Recipient of the Architect of Education Award

Ms. Verma Pastor
Education Activist
Recipient of the Education Award

2016 Award Recipients

Mr. Eneas Kane
Managing Director/CEO, DMB
Pacific Ventures
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Ms. Nachie Marquez
Assistant City Manager
City of Chandler
Recipient of the Champion of Education Award

Mr. Jacob Moore
Assistant Vice President
Tribal Relations, Office of University Affairs
Arizona State University
Recipient of the Advocate of Education Award

Mr. James R. Moffett, Jr.
President
Crescent Crown Distributing
Recipient of the Community Alliance Award

Ms. Pam Conboy
Desert Mountain Regional President
Wells Fargo Bank
Recipient of the Corporate Support Award

2017 Award Recipients

Ms. Olivia Zepeda
Associate Superintendent
Gadsden Elementary School District #32
Recipient of the Advocate for Excellence in Youth Education Award

Ms. Annette Musa
Arizona Market President
Comerica Wealth Management
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Mr. Paul Luna
President
Helios Education Foundation
Recipient of the Advocate for Excellence in Education Award

Dr. Rita Hartung Cheng
President
Northern Arizona University
Recipient of the Advocate for Education Diversity Award

Ms. Treena Parvello
Director of Public Relations and Communications
Desert Diamond Casinos & Entertainment
Recipient of the Role Model of Educational Accomplishments Award

2018 Award Recipients

Ms. Rosanna Hidalgo
Associate Superintendent
Phoenix Elementary School District
Recipient of the Educational Diversity Award

Dr. Mark Searle
Executive Vice President, Provost,
Arizona State University
Recipient of the Excellence in Education Award

Mr. Mark Breen
President
Atlantic Development and Investment Corporation
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Mr. Ron Aguallo
Superintendent, Douglas Unified School District
Recipient of the Role Model of Educational Accomplishments Award

Mr. Alberto Esparza
President, Si Se Puede Foundation
Recipient of the Excellence in Youth Education Award

2019 Award Recipients

Ms. Terri de Leon
Senior Program Officer
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
Recipient of the Educational Diversity Award

Dr. Kino Flores
Governing Board Member,
Tolleson High School District
Recipient of the Excellence in Education Award

APS
Recipient of the Sustained Benefactor of Education Award

Laura Pastor
Governing Board Member
Phoenix Union High School District
Recipient of the Academic Achievement Award

Dr. Daniel Corr
President
Arizona Western College
Recipient of the Excellence in Youth Education Award

2020 / 2021 Award Recipients

Mr. Miguel Bravo
Strategic Partnership Manager
APS
Recipient of the Educational Diversity Award

Ms. Norma Munoz
Governing Board Roosevelt School District #66
Recipient of the Excellence in Education Award

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona
Recipient of the Sustained Benefactor of Education Award

Ms. Elisa de la Vara
Senior Director of Philanthropic Services-Community Initiatives
Arizona Community Foundation
Recipient of the Academic Achievement Award

Mr. George Dean
President CEO
Greater Phoenix Urban League
Recipient of the Excellence in Youth Education Award

NOTE: Award recipients for 2020 were selected in 2020, but due to the COVID-19 crisis, the award recipients were not acknowledged and given their awards until 2021

2022 Award Recipients

Dr. Manuel Valenzuela
Superintendent
Sahuarita High School
Recipient of the Educational Diversity Award

Ms. Lety Miranda Garcia
Publisher
Prensa Arizona
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Dr. James Rund
Senior Vice President
Educational Outreach and Student Services
Arizona State University
Recipient of the Excellence in Education Award

Dr. Chad E. Gestson
Superintendent
Phoenix Union High School District
Recipient of the Excellence in Youth Education Award

2023 Award Recipients

José Gastelum

Superintendent, Sunnyside Unified School District
Recipient of the Educational Diversity Award

Maria Chavoya

Board Member, Arizona Western College
Recipient of the Excellence in Education Award

Diana Diaz-Harrison

Founder / CEO, Arizona Autism Charter School
Recipient of the Benefactor of Education Award

Patricia Garcia Duarte

Executive Vice President, Homeownership Initiatives
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.
Recipient of the Academic Achievement Award

David Bernstein

Chairperson of the Board, Harmony Project Phoenix
Recipient of the Excellence in Youth Education Award

Diogo Pereira

Founder and Executive Director,
Harmony Project Phoenix
Recipient of the Excellence in Youth Education Award



Jim Shee

Founding Board Member
2010 -2024

The Pete C. Garcia, Victoria Foundation is extremely proud of Jim's dedication, energy and leadership. Muchísimas gracias for your incredible contributions and counsel over the past fourteen years!

*Thank you for joining us in supporting and celebrating
Pete's passion and legacy for education.*



Pete Garcia

1944 - 2017

Husband - Father - Visionary - Leader - Friend



**The Pete C. Garcia Victoria Foundation gladly accepts Scholarship
Donations, please use this Q/R code for you donation.**