



Proactive: Minority Supplier Awards, Television Promotions, and Library Champions

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The [National Minority Supplier Development Council](#) (NMSDC) has selected the honorees for its 2009 Minority Business Leadership Awards. The member business organization has chosen **Alex Lopez Negrete**, president and CEO of Lopez Negrete Communications, along with David B. Dillon, chairman and CEO of The Kroger Company, and Kenneth M. Ricketts, president and CEO of Quality Packaging Specialists International.

The three corporate leaders will be honored for "significant long-term achievements in minority business development" at a ceremony, dance and dinner on Tuesday, May 13th at the Hilton New York and Towers in New York City.

Alex Lopez Negrete founded [Lopez Negrete Communications](#), the Houston-based advertising and communications agency, with his wife and partner, Cathy, in 1985. The agency has more than 180 employees and in 2008 had \$161 million in billings. Mr. Lopez Negrete provides strategic guidance and creative direction to all of his firm's clients, which include Bank of America, Microsoft, NBC Universal Pictures Group, Reliant Energy, Shell Oil Products U.S., Tyson Foods, Visa U.S.A. and Wal-Mart Stores.

"High achievement and decades of commitment to the power of solid alliances between minority businesses and their corporate partners are what distinguish this year's honorees," said Harriet R. Michel, president of NMSDC in a press release. "As individuals they are recognized as leaders in America's business community. Collectively they represent strength, perseverance, vision, forthrightness and commitment to our mutual goal that all Americans deserve a chance to take full part in our nation's economic progress."

[American Latino Syndication](#), a division of LATV Networks, has announced four promotions in preparation for an expansion in its programming during the 2009-2010 television season. **Erica Soto** has been appointed Show Producer and Head Writer for American Latino TV, **Julio Pabon** has been elevated to Senior Segment & Web Producer, and **Pablo Barrera** is now Segment Producer. Along with these changes, **Kristy Carreno** has also been moved from Executive Assistant to Production Coordinator.

"I am thrilled with the talent and spirit of our entire team," said David Morales, Vice-President of American Latino Syndication. "I am proud that none of us are willing to rest on the success of our current shows, and these promotions reflect our recognition of their individual efforts."

The company is launching a new situation comedy this year, [Trevino](#), which will star nationally known stand-up comedian Steve Trevino, and the network plans to continue its nationally syndicated staple shows *American Latino TV* and *LatiNation*.

The Miami-Dade Public Library Foundation presented the Library Champion award to **Georgie and Frank Angones** for "their long-standing advocacy of literacy and the Library." **Georgie Angones** is the Assistant Dean for Alumni Relations and Development at the University of Miami School of Law, and Frank Angones is the immediate past President of the Florida Bar and is a partner at Angones, McClure, & Garcia, P.A. More than 300 guests took part in the ceremony on January 23, which also featured a dinner and story telling by distinguished local authors.

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