

LOFT Across the Country



Mayor Gavin Newsom

LOFT Awards - Workforce Diversity & Inclusion Event

San Francisco CA :: September 30

LOFT members connected with each other and with the business community of the Bay Area. Hosted by Mayor Newsom at City Hall, LOFT celebrated and honored the leadership in addressing the inclusion and diversity needs of corporate America by Mayor Newsom, Wachovia, and fellow LOFT members Emanuel Pleitez and Marina Gatto.

Dispelling the myth that there is lack of Hispanic talent, the room filled with over 100 young professionals, from undergraduates to PhD candidates representing The University of California (Berkeley, LA, Davis, Santa Ana), Stanford University, University of San Francisco, San Francisco State, California State University; Foothill College, and many more.

LOFT members were provided with networking tips, business cards and an introduction to a local network of peers prior to the event.

Local companies' executives looking for Hispanic talent attended. They included PG&E, Google, Wells Fargo, Merrill Lynch, GeneTech, CARECEN, Goldman Sachs, MEXICANA Airlines, Macy's, Piper Jaffray & Co., and many more.

After the ceremony, students networked away over hors d'oeuvres while an array of connections were made and business cards exchanged. Even the closing of the venue did not stop this crowd as it quickly spilled into the halls and outside the building.



Marina Gatto, Emanuel Pleitez

NSHMBA Conference

Atlanta GA :: October 10-11

LOFT had a presence at the National Society of Hispanic MBAs Conference. Graduate students took the opportunity to meet LOFT Director, Anita Galiano and join the network while attending corporations looking for Hispanic talent became aware of the program and its talented pool of members.



Target's *Get Behind the Bullseye*

Target headquarters, Minneapolis MN :: October 26

Ten LOFT members attended the *Get Behind the Bullseye* information session on career opportunities at Target. A LOFT sponsor, Target showcased different departments, company branches and offered tours of their amazing headquarters, which ended with interview sessions.



LOFT Leadership Luncheon

Washington DC :: October 9

More than 50 Washington DC area LOFT members gathered on October 9 to connect with local and national Latino leaders and professionals at the Capitol Hilton Hotel.

The day was packed with events starting with a relevant financial workshop by Allianz Life, focused on addressing ways in which college students can begin to secure their financial future in light of the current economic environment.

This helpful workshop was followed by the dynamic ‘Diversity Today and Tomorrow’ panel discussion hosted by Exxon Mobil and Zogby International. The conversation focused on new research about diversity conducted by Zogby and the Hispanic Heritage Foundation on Hispanic youth in three areas: 1.work, 2.the community where they live and 3.their social surroundings.

The study revealed the importance of diversity in these areas as their past experience and their expectations of the future. The panelists included policy makers, research experts, LOFT members Jesse Rodriguez and Grecia Gonzalez, and our very own LOFT Director, Anita Galiano.



Antonio Tijerino, CEO of the Hispanic Heritage Foundation with CSI: Miami's Adam Rodriguez



Diversity Panel

The busy morning concluded with a luncheon emceed by MTV Tr3s VJ Carlos Santos where a crowd of almost 200 students, area business and community executives celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month and the promise of our youth. During the ceremony the ExxonMobil LOFT Fellows and miMentors programs were announced, followed by our key note speaker CSI: Miami's Adam Rodriguez.

Last and among the most memorable instances was a passionate poetry performance by LOFT member Elizabeth Acevedo from George Washington University. If you missed it, you can still catch "[Remind Me](#)" on YouTube



Elizabeth Acevedo

