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16° Evento Anual de Premios Urban Wheel, Detroit

Por Claudia Annoni, La Prensa

Celebrando el "Consumo de abarqué multicultural y la inclusión de diversidad" en la industria automotriz; el 8 de enero se llevó a cabo el 16° Evento Anual de Premios Urban Wheel (Urban Wheel Awards) en el MotorCity Casino Hotel de Detroit, Michigan. Coincidiendo con el Show Internacional del Automóvil en Norte America.

Urban Wheel Awards premia a compañías e individuos que han hecho una diferencia o progreso significativo impactando con ello a comunidades y consumidores. Este año la ceremonia de entrega fue conducida por la Sra. Phylcia Rashad, actriz y ganadora de varios premios, junto con el Sr. John Quiñones, reportero de ABC y ganador en los premios EMMY.

Los rubros que se reconocen son a los mejores "Proveedores del año", "Concesionaria de

automóviles", "Trayectoria", "Ejecutivos", "Compañías, en diferentes categorías", "Corporación del año", "Automóviles", "Camionetas" y más.

El Sr. David Segura, ejecutivo director de VisionIT, recibió el premio al mejor proveedor hispano del año y el Sr. Bob Zamora, presidente del grupo Zamora Automotive, recibió el premio a la mejor concesionaria automóvil del año, solo mencionando algunos de los galardonados.

Los automóviles ganadores se pueden visitar en el Show Internacional del Automóvil en Norte America (North American International Auto Show/NAIAS) que abrirá al público el sábado 14 de enero hasta el domingo 22 de enero del 2012. El Show se encuentra ubicado en Cobo Center.

NSF grant will help Wayne State University professors' mathematical modeling of fatty liver predictors

Detroit, January 20, 2012: Predicting problems in one of the body's most complex organs soon may become easier because of work being done by Wayne State University researchers.

Howard Matthew and Yinlun Huang, professors of chemical engineering and materials science, recently received a \$550,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop a mathematical model of liver metabolism that can be used to analyze and more effectively predict responses to possible treatments for hepatic steatosis, more commonly known as fatty liver.

The condition affects between 15 and 20 percent of the U.S. population and often is a precursor to more serious problems. Accumulation of fat droplets, or lipids, inside liver cells is a key characteristic in many of the organ's failure modes. Increased lipid accumulation is usually the first symptom to appear before a measurable dysfunction occurs.

On the Internet: <http://www.media.wayne.edu/2012/01/19/nsf-grant-will-help-wayne-state-university>



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Harsh immigration tone pushing Latinos from the Republicans

By JERI CLAUSING, Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Jan. 15, 2012 (AP)—The Republican Party is beefing up its minority outreach nationwide and preparing to put its rising Latino stars on the campaign trail amid concerns that tough immigration rhetoric in the presidential primary is taking on an increasingly anti-Latino tone.

But immigrant-rights groups and some political watchers say the damage may be irreversible. They argue that the GOP has severely hampered itself as it looks to woo the critical Latino voting bloc that could decide who wins key states like New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, California, and Florida in November.

Mitt Romney “is done,” said DeeDee Blase, founder of *Somos Republicans* in Arizona. “He’ll be lucky to get 8 percent of the Hispanic vote” after saying he would veto legislation that would create a path to citizenship for some undocumented immigrants and accepting the endorsement of anti-immigration activist *Kris Kobach*, architect of two of the strongest immigration crackdown laws in the country.

The GOP front-runner, Romney has referred to the legislation—called the DREAM Act—as a handout. The measure would allow some young undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children to earn legal status if they went to college or joined the military. Challengers, including Texas Gov. Perry, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and Ron Paul, have also taken tough anti-immigration stances in the campaign.

Language from them has been so sharp that even New Mexico Gov. *Susana Martínez*, a Republican, has warned the candidates to watch their tongues.

“What we have to do is this: We have to tone down the rhetoric, and we have to have a sincere, honest conversation with the voters,” Martínez said Wednesday, shortly after the Republican National Committee announced that it had hired a director of Latino outreach and was expanding its Latino-focused efforts. She’s among the popular Latino politicians Republicans will deploy to battleground states in the coming months.

There’s a reason for the urgent tone coming from Republican leaders on this matter.

The government projects Latinos will account for roughly 30 percent of the population by 2050, doubling in size and boosting their political power. Overall, Latinos traditionally tilt Democrat, meaning the Republican Party is looking at a threat to their future power if they don’t work to make inroads with this politically pivotal group now.

Democrats have strengthened their standing with Latinos in the most recent presidential election years. While much was made during the Democratic primary of 2008 of President Barack Obama’s perceived weakness among Latinos, he won 67 percent of their vote in the general election to 31 percent for Republican John McCain of Arizona. It was a huge jump from 2004 when Democratic nominee John Kerry won Latinos by 53 percent to 44 percent for Bush, a Texan who focused heavily on Latinos.

Some worry that this year’s eventual GOP nominee won’t fare much better than McCain four years ago—and may fare worse—if candidates don’t soften the way they talk about immigration.

“It’s an emotional issue, and I think if the candidate can realize that and talk about it, you can still be conservative on immigration and talk about it in a way that doesn’t turn off Hispanics,” said *Jennifer Korn*, executive director of the *Hispanic Leadership Network*. She agreed that “some of the rhetoric could be pared back a bit” but disagreed that presidential candidates are shutting out huge blocs of Latino voters.

The issue is about to push to the forefront as the race for the GOP presidential nomination moves to Florida after South Carolina votes Jan. 21.

Korn’s group is sponsoring its third conference in February in Miami, one day before it sponsors a debate with CNN.

Newt Gingrich, who supports a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, is the only presidential candidate scheduled to speak at the event.

Mindful of the challenges, the Republican National Committee unveiled expanded efforts to woo Latinos last week.

Party Chairman *Reince Priebus* said the national party had hired *Bettina Inclin* as director of Latino outreach and was implementing a “multifaceted approach to connect with the Hispanic community” that will include digital outreach, traditional voter identification and get-out-the-vote efforts. It is also putting teams on the ground in

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key states, he said, and will tap popular GOP Latinos like Martínez, Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval, and Florida Sen. Marco Rubio.

Yet even as they announced boosted efforts, Priebus and Inclan downplayed the impact the immigration issue will have come November, emphasizing the unemployment rate among Latinos is at 11 percent, almost two points higher than the national average.

“We need to address it,” Inclan said. “We need to talk about it. But poll after poll shows the No. 1 issue for Latinos in this country is going to be how they are going to feed their family.”

Democrats, meanwhile, are making the GOP’s task harder. Obama’s campaign is way ahead in its grassroots outreach to Latinos thanks to the fact that he doesn’t have a primary opponent. His re-election campaign has had teams long in place on the ground in states like Florida, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Nevada. And volunteers already are knocking on doors and conducting voter registration drives and weekly phone banks to shore up the Latino base.

But immigration is also a weak spot for Obama ahead of the November election. His campaign pledge to overhaul the immigration system remains unfulfilled—which he blames on lack of cooperation from Republicans in Congress—and he’s been criticized for a record number of deportations last year (400,000).

As Obama gears up for a re-election contest, his administration has modified some immigration regulations. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced in August would focus deportation efforts on criminal undocumented immigrants. Earlier this month the Obama administration proposed new rules to cut down on the time US-Americans are separated from their undocumented immigrant spouses and children waiting outside the country for a visa to enter the U.S. About 75 percent of the hardship applications to waive the wait were filed by Mexicans, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Associated Press writer Russell Contreras in Albuquerque contributed to this report.



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The Sphinx Competition, to be held February 8-12, 2012, will feature performances in Ann Arbor and Detroit and professional development opportunities for all participants. This year the inaugural Arthur Johnson Memorial Lecture celebrates the legacy of the civil rights leader and will also honor a leader in the community.

Selected from a national pool of applicants, the 19 semi-finalists will compete for more than \$25,000 in prizes, performance opportunities with major orchestras across the country and full-tuition scholarships to leading music institutions. This year's semi-finalists range in age from 12 to 25, and hail from 12 states.

Junior Division Laureates will compete for first place at the Honors Concert on *Friday, February 10th at 12:00PM* at Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium in partnership with the *University Musical Society*.

The Senior Division culminates in the Finals Concert *Sunday, February 12th at 2:00PM* at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. For the first time in Sphinx's history, the

live audience will be able to text their Audience Choice nominations at the concert. The winner will receive live recognition and a cash award in addition to other prizes.

Both the Honors and Finals Concerts will feature the *Sphinx Symphony Orchestra* conducted by *Michael Morgan*. Brought to this year's events through the support of Lillian and Don Bauder and the Bauder Conductor Fellowship, Morgan is a prominent conductor and music director of the Oakland East Bay Symphony.

Guest artists the *Catalyst Quartet*, a Sphinx Ensemble, will be featured during the Competition. The Catalyst Quartet comprises top Laureates and Alumni from the Sphinx Competition. The Catalyst Quartet inspires new and young audiences with dynamic performances of cutting-edge repertoire by a wide range of composers.

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