



**For Immediate Release**

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***The Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Announces  
NASA Astronaut José Hernández to be Key Note Speaker at  
38<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Awards and Recognition Gala***

*Hundreds of Sacramento Business Leaders Will Gather on Friday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010*

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – The Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that NASA Astronaut José Hernández will be the featured speaker at the Chamber’s 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Awards and Recognition Gala on Friday, Feb. 26, and will receive a special Unity Service Award from the Chamber.

This year’s theme is Unity and Community. This theme reflects the importance of the Sacramento community working together in these tough economic times.

“As we face challenging times, we celebrate the unity Sacramento business owners have shown one another,” said Steve Gándola, President and CEO of the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. “The Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is actively supporting the needs of our business owners and professionals during these trying times.”

Astronaut José Hernández will be awarded the Unity award for his commitment to the community.

Since making his dreams come true at NASA, Mr. Hernández has been giving back to the community. Even with a busy schedule, he makes time for speaking engagements and inspires people of all ages that dreams can come true. Hernández has created the Reaching for the Stars Foundation, which supports programs that focus in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The foundation also provides scholarships to students pursuing higher education.

“We are honored to have NASA Astronaut José Hernández speak to our Sacramento community of leaders, professionals and executives,” said Rosa Escutia, Chair of the Board for the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. “It is leaders like him that inspire and empower our business leaders of tomorrow.”

This year’s business awards will also recognize a business person of the year, small business of the year, corporate advocate, non-profit, and a young professional of the year.

In addition to the hundreds of business owners and professionals that will be attending this event, local community leaders, and elected officials will also be in attendance.

The evening will be filled with music, dancing, and live entertainment. Join us as we celebrate and honor those chamber members who have gone above and beyond.

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Awards and Recognition Banquet will take place on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Sacramento Convention Center. Networking will start at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and the awards ceremony beginning at 6:30 p.m.

For more information on the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and to buy your tickets to this event, please visit [www.sachcc.org](http://www.sachcc.org) or call 916-486-7700.

***About the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce:*** The mission of the SHCC is to maximize members’ business success through networking, advocacy and education. Founded in 1972, the chamber has worked tirelessly to promote business, industry, commerce and culture within the Sacramento region and to enhance relationships between Latino businesses and the community. Today, with a membership of over 600, the chamber is still committed to the same goals set forth 37 years ago.

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