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## **ALAS Announces Participants in National Superintendents Leadership Academy**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—September 12, 2013—The Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) is proud to announce the 2013-2014 participants of its prestigious Superintendents Leadership Academy (SLA). Only 17 superintendents and administrators from across the nation were selected to participate in the year-long program.

The leadership program is the first of its kind in the United States to focus on preparing the next generation of school system leaders with the skills necessary to close achievement gaps and specifically address the needs of English Language Learners and other disenfranchised groups.

Participants were selected for the program based on their proven record of leadership and commitment on raising the level of student achievement for students of color and for English Language Learners for the school districts they serve. Their level of dedication to serving the needs of children and their families was also considered essential for selection.

The year-long program will cover Curriculum & Instruction/Assessment; Equity Leadership & Community Engagement; Governance & Strategic Planning; Leadership & Preparing to Become a Superintendent Preparation; Management Systems & Structures; and Government Relations. Experienced superintendents and other educational professionals will share their expertise at the sessions.

The program participants represent 11 different states. They are:

Ivan Chaidez  
Director, English Language Learners & Alternative  
Education Services  
Napa Valley ISD  
Napa, California

Matilde Orozco, Ph.D.  
School Support Officer and Regional Superintendent  
Houston ISD  
Houston, Texas

Robyn A. Duran, Ph.D.  
Executive Director of Excellence & Equity  
Cherry Creek School District  
Greenwood Village, Colorado

Roberto Padilla, Ph.D.  
Principal  
West Prep Academy  
New York, New York

Marisol Enriquez, Ph.D.  
Pathway Director  
Aurora Public Schools  
Aurora, Colorado

Miguel S. Perez, II, Ph.D.  
Associate Superintendent  
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston  
Houston, Texas

Nancy B. Gutierrez, Ph.D.  
Executive Director of Advanced Leadership  
Strategy  
New York City Department of Education  
New York, New York

Adrienne Razo  
Director, Research and Evaluation  
Pendergast Elementary School District  
Phoenix, Arizona

Verenice Gutierrez, Ph.D.  
Principal, Scott K-8  
Portland Public Schools  
Portland, Oregon

Liliana Salazar  
District Director for Exceptional Student Education  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
Miami, Florida

Erica Avila Hlavaty, Ph.D.  
Prevention Coordinator  
Isaac School District  
Phoenix, Arizona

Jose A. Taboada, II  
Principal  
Prince George's County Public Schools  
Hyattsville, Maryland

Gonzalo LaCava, Ph.D.  
Assistant Superintendent  
Fulton County Schools  
Atlanta, Georgia

Ray Trejo  
Director of Transportation  
Deming Public Schools  
Deming, New Mexico

David Mauricio, Ph.D.  
Community Superintendent  
Buffalo, New York

Suzette F. Vasquez Wyhs  
District Supervisor for World Languages & Cultures  
Loudon County Public Schools  
Ashburn, Virginia

Anim Pena Mener, Ph.D.  
Director of Personnel  
East San Gabriel Valley  
West Covina, California

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**About the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS)**

Established in 2003, ALAS is an educational professional association advocating for Latino youth through professional development, interaction and networking among administrators in school districts nationwide that serve Latino students. The national nonprofit was formed in response to the lack of national advocacy and representation of Latino administrators and students by the existing mainstream professional associations.