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**BALLET HISPÁNICO
CARNAVAL Gala 2018
Celebrating the Impact of Latino Leaders
EMILIO & GLORIA ESTEFAN,
CAROLINA HERRERA, and MARCOS TORRES
Raised More Than \$1.25 Million**

Celebrating the impact of Latino leaders, **Ballet Hispanico's Carnaval Gala** on May 7 at The Plaza Hotel raised more than \$1.25 million in support of the organization's artistic, educational and community outreach programs in New York City, across the United States and around the world. This includes the creation of new Company works, scholarships for students at the renown Ballet Hispanico School of Dance, and numerous community arts and educational programs.

Ballet Hispanico honored Latin music superstars **Emilio & Gloria Estefan** with the *Nuestra Inspiración* Award, presented by **Sergio Trujillo**; legendary fashion designer **Carolina Herrera** with the *Toda Una Vida* Award; and businessman and community activist **Marcos Torres** with the Civic Inspiration Award.

"We love this country, we are proud Americans, we are proud Latinos, and this tonight, represents that," said honoree Emilio Estefan in his acceptance remarks.

Kate Lear, Ballet Hispanico Board Chair introduced Carolina Herrera: "Your life's work of empowering women to be their best selves aligns with our mission at Ballet Hispanico to ignite the passion and unique talent in everyone we serve. Know that at this very moment, the trail-blazing path you have set is providing inspiration to our students and the young people in the room."

"Our Ballet Hispanico Carnaval Gala was a glorious event that spotlighted the very best of Latina and Latino dance, fashion and community service," said Eduardo Vilaro, Ballet Hispanico Artistic Director and CEO. "I am thrilled that all proceeds will support our vision of access to the arts and culture around our nation."

Ballet Hispanico's annual *CARNAVAL* Gala was a celebration of the impactful voices of the Latino world—an exciting and fitting way to showcase the resilience and unparalleled vision of one of America's cultural gems. Attended by more than 450 of New York's most influential civic leaders, philanthropists, and artists, the evening was filled with live Latin music and thrilling performances by the Ballet Hispanico Company, students of the School of Dance, and aspiring young dancers from the New Orleans Ballet Association.



ABOUT BALLET HISPÁNICO

Ballet Hispánico, the premier Latino dance organization in the United States, brings individuals and communities together to celebrate and explore Latino cultures through dance. Whether dancing on stage, in school, or in the street, Ballet Hispánico creates a space where few institutions are breaking ground. The organization's founder, National Medal of Arts recipient Tina Ramirez, sought to give voice to the Hispanic experience and break through stereotypes. Today, Ballet Hispánico is led by Eduardo Vilaro, an acclaimed choreographer and former member of the Company, whose vision of social equity, cultural identity and quality arts education for all, drives its programs. Ballet Hispánico, a role model in and for the Latino community, is inspiring creativity and social awareness in our neighborhoods and across the country by providing access to arts education.

For more information, visit www.ballethispanico.org. Follow Ballet Hispánico on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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