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**The Truth, and Its Consequences: National Association of Latino Independent Producers Turns a Lens on the Latino Media Scene**

**Conference 7 Themed “Latino Lens: Naked Truth” to be held at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach , CA  
March 9 – 12, 2006**

Los Angeles, CA (January, 2006) The National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP), HBO, and Daily Variety announce the Seventh Annual NALIP Conference co-chaired by POV/American Documentary VP Cynthia Lopez and producer-writer Barbara Martinez-Jitner (“American Family”, Bordertown). The conference will be held March 9-12 in beautiful Long Beach , California . Online registration now available at [www.nalip.org](http://www.nalip.org)

The Conference will feature a Gala Awards dinner with celebrity MC , the second annual Latino Media Market, professional-development seminars and keynote speakers, media lab and networking opportunities, plus a sneak preview screening of HBO’s Original Film Walkout directed by Edward James Olmos, starring Alexa Vega and Michael Pena. In addition, NALIP will unveil its third Latino Media Resource Guide™, an essential directory that includes credits and contacts of Latino film, television and documentary makers, production companies, film schools, diversity opportunities and distributors.

This March, NALIP brings together the Latino media field in order to take a sharp look at the progress of Latinos in entertainment. The Conference will also honor four media luminaries at their annual Gala Awards dinner on Saturday, March 11th. David Valdes (The Green Mile, The Assassination of Jesse James) will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award in Producing, Helen Hernandez (Imagen Foundation) will receive the Achievement in Advocacy Award and Moctesuma Esparza will receive the Outstanding Achievement Award for the establishment of Maya Cinemas which are multiplexes for indie and commercial films in communities with Latino concentrations. This year NALIP will inaugurate a new award, the ESTELA, to celebrate a filmmaker whose work to date reveals leadership, creativity, and tenacity, as well as vision and passion for his/her craft. NALIP’s first Estela will be awarded to writer/director Rodrigo Garcia (Nine Lives, “Carnivale”).

“Funders attend to meet talent, and makers attend to form collaborations,” says co-chair and founding Executive Board member Cynthia Lopez. “NALIP brings together indie feature documentary makers, community media artists and activists along with top level entertainment industry executives. We have a common vision: raising the voice and profile of Latinos.”

Executives from HBO, Universal, Fox, CBS, ABC, Daily Variety and many others are scheduled to attend and participate. These executives represent the areas of producing, development and funding, distribution and broadcasting as well as management and representation. For a complete list of additional speakers, panels and keynotes please visit, [www.nalip.org](http://www.nalip.org)

HBO President Colin Callendar will welcome the Conference attendees to the Walkout premiere which will also include a Q&A session with key creative talent from the HBO production.

NALIP, with the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, presents the second Latino Media Market™ concurrent with Conference 7. 40 select feature production and development projects, documentary works-in-progress and reality television series ideas will be accepted to participate in a special executive meeting series designed to advance the projects, arrange financing and attract broadcast licenses. SiTV again returns as the exclusive non-scripted television channel taking series concept pitches and will award a \$2,000 prize plus a 4-month development option to the strongest series concept pitched at the Market.

NALIP will also award a special LOTERIA cash prize to one lucky Conference attendee. “Everyone needs development money,” says NALIP Executive Director Kathryn F. Galan. “We’ll announce the LOTERIA winner at the Gala, and the entire NALIP community will support this maker’s success.”

About NALIP:

Founded in 1999 by a group of Latino producers, educators and media activists, NALIP’s mission is to promote the advancement, development and funding of Latino and Latina film and media arts in all genres.

NALIP is committed to improving access and opportunities for Latino/as at all points in the media production pipeline, including the training of our next generation of media makers, and the support of emerging and mid-career professionals. It is a national organization of industry, independent and community producers dedicated to increasing the quality and quantity of images by, for and about Latinos in the media.

For the latest information about NALIP Conference 7, or to register online go to [www.nalip.org](http://www.nalip.org). All those interested in exhibiting, please contact Conference Coordinator Tery Lopez at 310.395.8484.

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