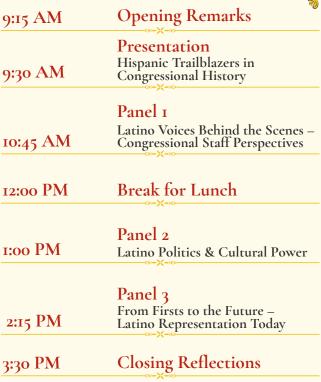




In 2025, the 119th Congress set a new benchmark with 52 Latino members, the most Latin American members of Congress in U.S. history — 7 U.S. Senators and 45 Representatives. With Latinos comprising more than 20% of the U.S. population but holding just 10% of Congressional seats, the gap in representation remains. To mark this historic milestone and spark a broader national dialogue, the United States Capitol Historical Society invites you to an extraordinary, one-day symposium exploring the complex and evolving legacy of Latino representation in the U.S. Congress. This powerful gathering of lawmakers, scholars, Congressional staff, and cultural and civic leaders will reflect on the past, examine the present, and imagine a more equitable future for Latino political engagement in the United States.



## **PROGRAM**





## **SPEAKERS**

#### Katherine A. Scott

United States Senate Historian U.S. Senate



Historian of the House of Representatives U.S. House of Representatives

#### Leonardo Mendoza

President of the Congressional Hispanic Staff Association U.S. House of Representatives

#### Patrick Herrera

President of the GOP Latinos Staff Association U.S. House of Representatives

#### Mary Ann Gomez Orta

President & CEO Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute











**Carmen Lamas** *Latino/a Literature and Studies Professor*University of Virginia



Carlos Orta
President & CEO
The Latino Coalition



### Jorge Zamanillo



Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Latino Smithsonian Institution



#### Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Former Congresswoman (R-FL)

U.S. House of Representatives



# **Tony Gonzalez**Congressman (R-TX)

U.S. House of Representatives

